

KONG

OF SKULL ISLAND

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
BRAD SIMPSON

NO. 1 OF 6
BOOM!
STUDIOS





WE WERE MORE ALIKE THAN DIFFERENT. AND ALREADY SO VULNERABLE TO THE REAL AND DIRE THREATS OF OUR WORLD.



BUT WE ALLOWED OURSELVES TO BE TORN APART, PITTED AGAINST EACH OTHER--

--INSTEAD OF PREPARING TO FACE THE HORRORS THAT AWAITED US.



PERHAPS WE HAD ALLOWED OURSELVES TO BECOME TOO DISTRACTED TO SEE WHAT WAS COMING...

HOLD!

WHAT IS THIS?!

YOU DEFILE THE FAMILY SEAL OF THE TAGU KING?!



PLEASE--NO NEED TO HARASS THESE PEOPLE IN MY NAME.

AS YOU SAY, KING. MY APOLOGIES.

WE MAY OBSERVE DIFFERENT RITUALS, BUT WE RESPECT THE ATU TRADITIONS.



WE ALL HOPE FOR A THRILLING EXHIBITION TODAY!

SO PLEASE--MAKE YOUR OFFERING! EMBOLDEN YOUR GLADIATORS!

UNLEASH YOUR--





NO NEED TO WORRY, MY LOVE.

IT IS NATURAL FOR THE KONG TO FIGHT. TO DETERMINE RANK.

A THOUSAND YEARS OF TRAINING, SELECTIVE BREEDING-- THEY STILL HAVE ANIMAL IMPULSES. BUT THEY ARE INTELLIGENT ENOUGH TO KNOW WHERE TO AIM THOSE URGES.



YES!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, VALLA? IF FER'RAH CONTINUES FIGHTING LIKE THAT--

--HAVE WE FINALLY FOUND YOU A MATE?



OFFERINGS!

WHO AMONG YOU WILL SACRIFICE TO GAIN THE GODS' FAVOR FOR OUR KONG?



HMM... THIS PIECE IS BEAUTIFUL.

SURELY THEY WOULD APPRECIATE SUCH A GIFT MORE THAN BERRIES?

USANA, I...

THE GODS PROTECT US THROUGH THE KONG. THROUGH MY FATHER.

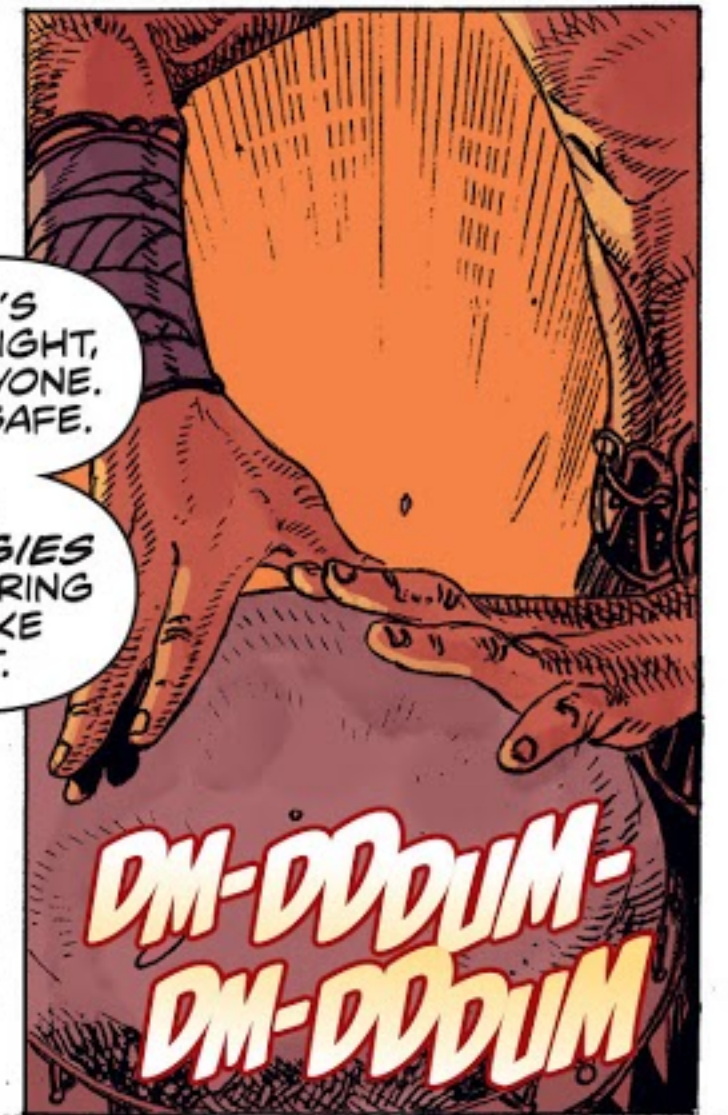
AND ONLY ASK FOR GRATITUDE, DEVOTION AND... THE OCCASIONAL SACRIFICE.



HNNF?



FWOSH!







BREATHE.
IT'S OVER.

AND
YOU MADE
US ALL
PROUD.



EVERYTHING
PACKED?

AND
ROLLING
OUT!

GOOD!
STILL A
QUARTER-DAY'S
SAIL TO THE
FEEDING
LANDS--

--AND YOU
ALL WORKED
UP QUITE AN
APPETITE!



AND WHO LOOKS
OUT FOR THE GREAT
TAGU KONG
TRAINER? IS SHE
HUNGRY?

OR...
THIRSTY?

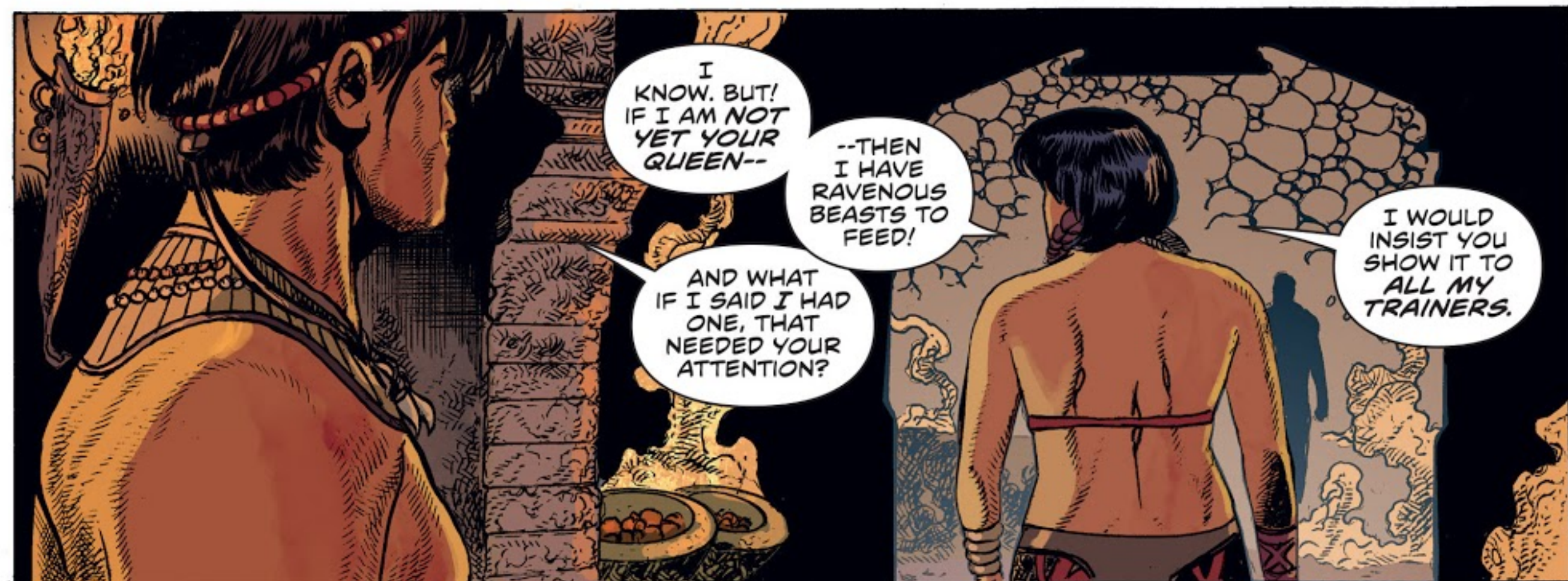


HNNN...
I--I SHOULD
GO.

OH? COULD
YOU PERSUADE
HIM TO LET US
HAVE A
CEREMONY?

IF YOU WOULD
RATHER NOT...
I HAVE *SOME*
INFLUENCE WITH
THE KING.

WHEN HE IS
READY FOR ME
TO ASCEND--

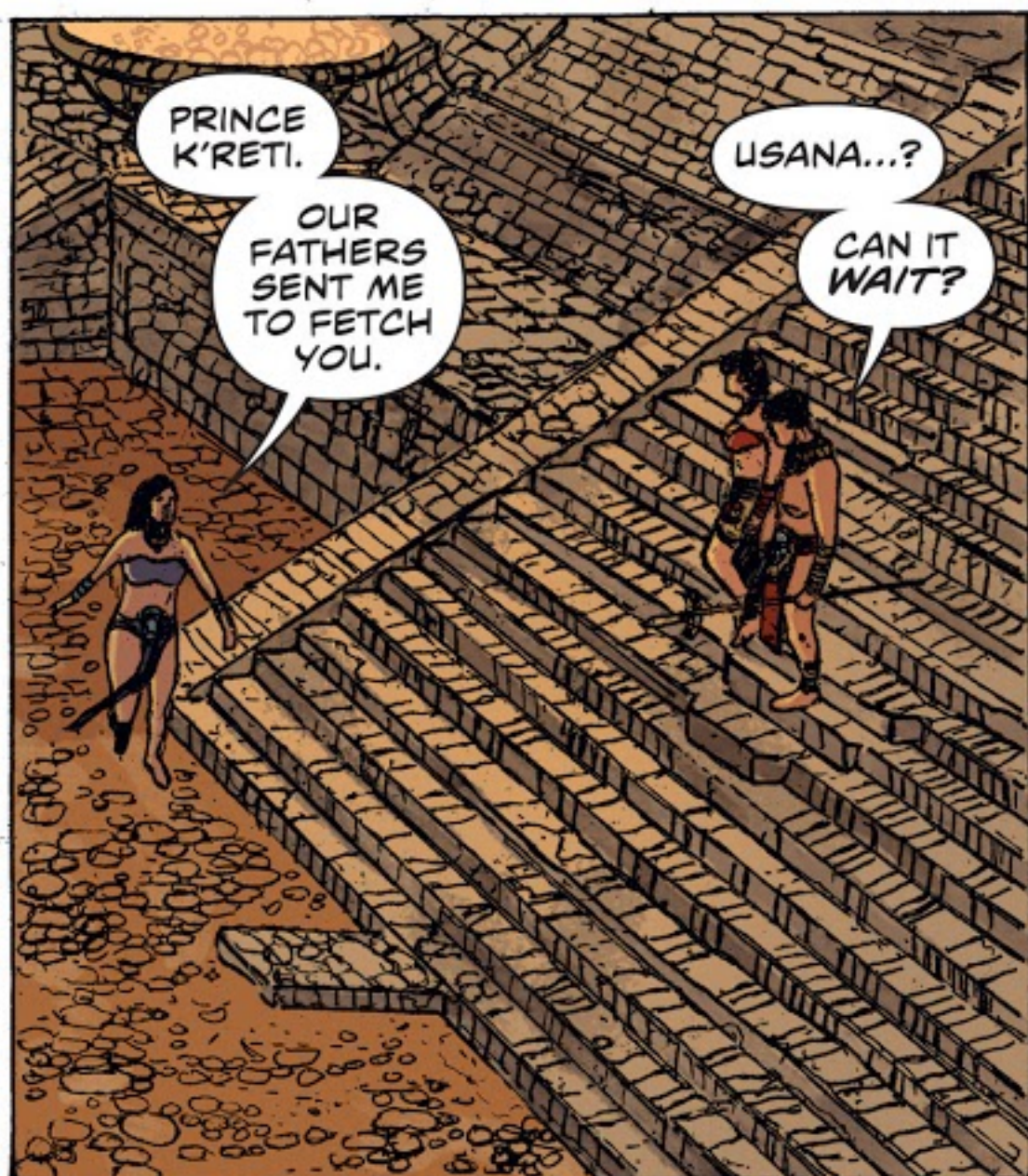


I
KNOW. BUT!
IF I AM NOT
YET YOUR
QUEEN--

--THEN
I HAVE
RAVENOUS
BEASTS TO
FEED!

AND WHAT
IF I SAID I HAD
ONE, THAT
NEEDED YOUR
ATTENTION?

I WOULD
INSIST YOU
SHOW IT TO
ALL MY
TRAINERS.



PRINCE K'RETI.

OUR FATHERS SENT ME TO FETCH YOU.

USANA...?

CAN IT WAIT?



YOUR ADVISORS AND MY FATHER'S SEERS ARE MEETING AT THE GREAT MOUTH. URGENTLY.

SORRY TO--

NO WORRY. GO TO YOUR FATHER.

WE CAN TALK WHEN I RETURN.



SO. YOU CERTAINLY KNOW HOW TO HANDLE YOUR APES.

HMM...

THOUGH, IF YOU TAUGHT HIM TO FEAR YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING--YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM CAVING TO ANIMAL IMPULSES.



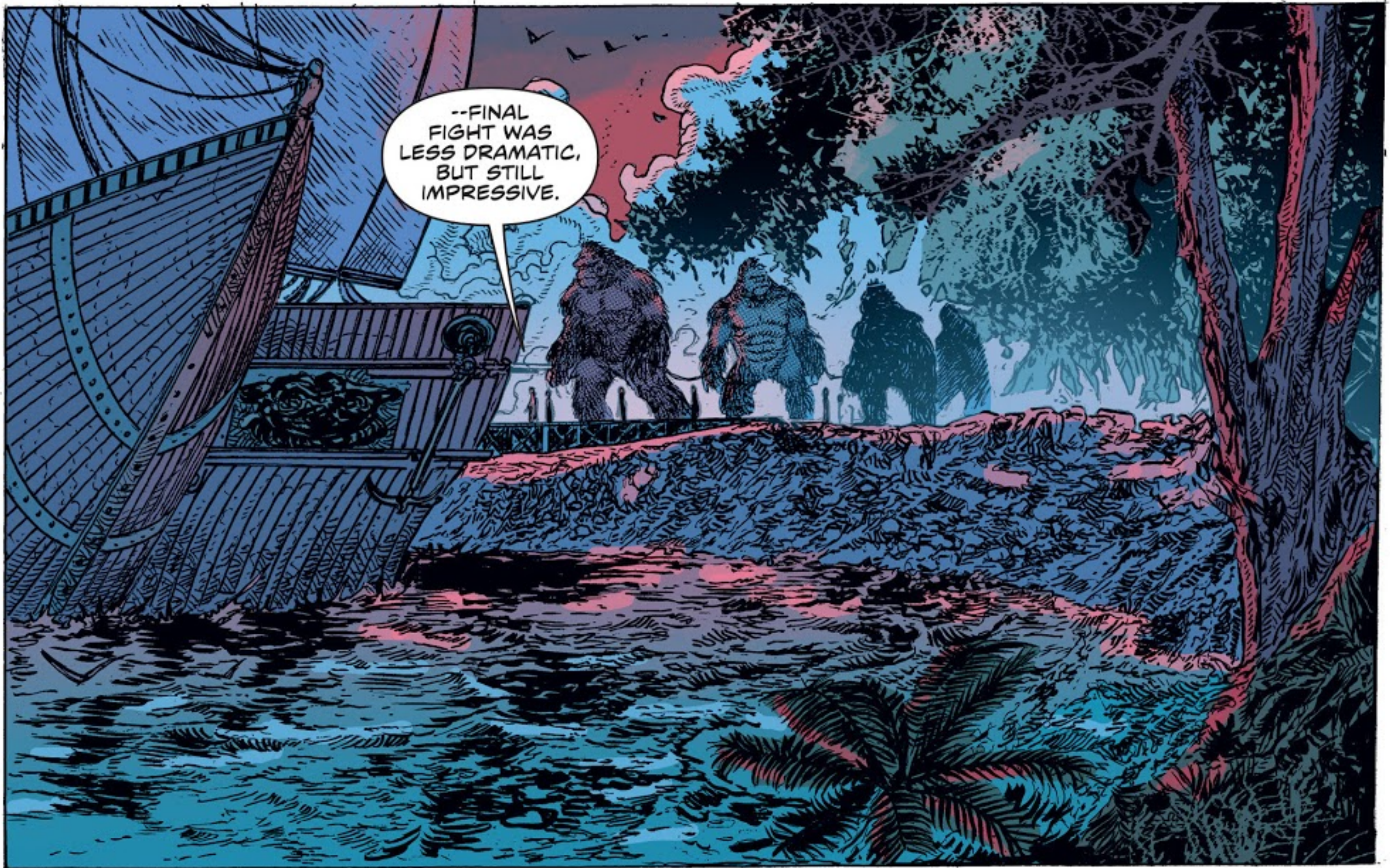
MAYBE. BUT I STILL PREFER MUTUAL RESPECT.

A FEARFUL ANIMAL HAS NO THOUGHT FOR RESPECT. FEAR REDUCES EVERY CREATURE TO ITS BASE INSTINCT. ATU TEACH AND CONTROL WHAT TO FEAR.

THERE WILL ALWAYS BE THINGS SCARIER THAN YOU OUT THERE. BUT WITH RESPECT, COMES LOVE. FEAR ONLY DICTATES WHAT WE RUN FROM--



--LOVE DETERMINES WHAT WE FIGHT FOR.

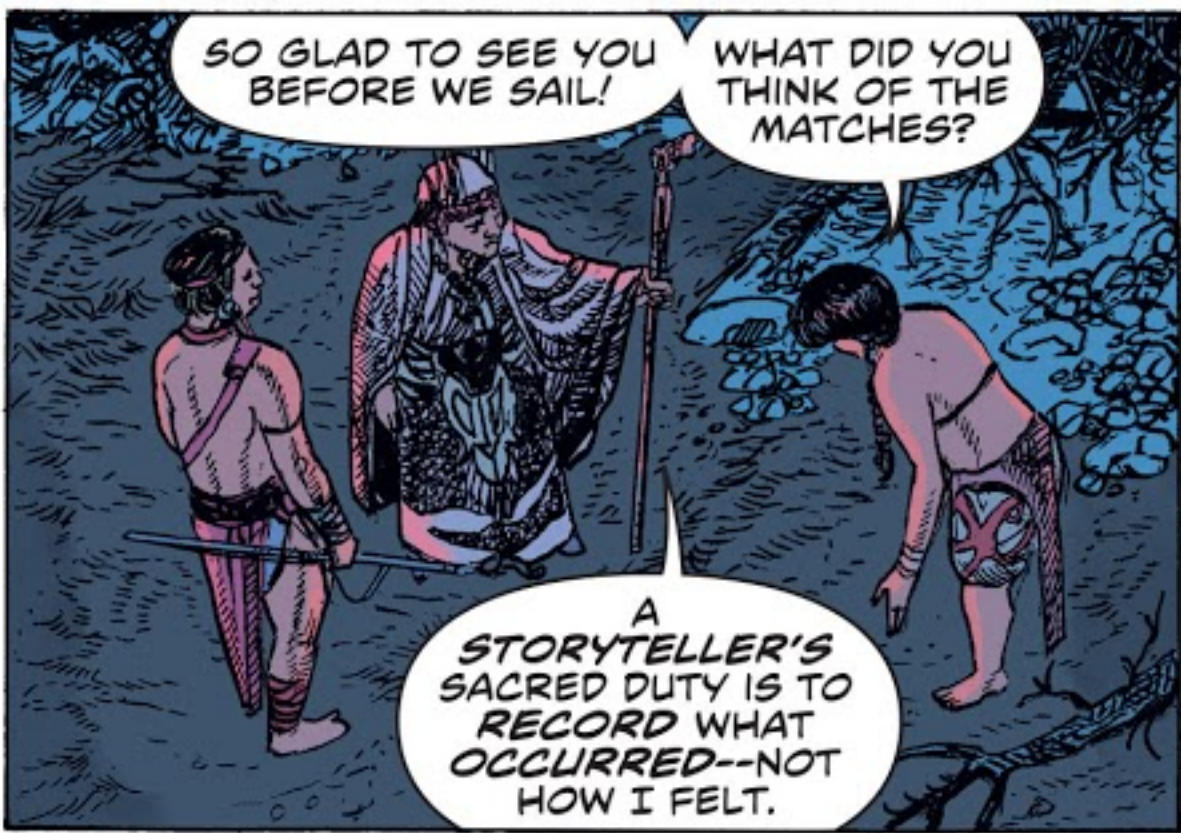


--FINAL
FIGHT WAS
LESS DRAMATIC,
BUT STILL
IMPRESSIVE.



OH, COME NOW--I
NEED MORE DETAILS
THAN THAT!

SANI!



SO GLAD TO SEE YOU
BEFORE WE SAIL!

WHAT DID YOU
THINK OF THE
MATCHES?

A
STORYTELLER'S
SACRED DUTY IS TO
RECORD WHAT
OCCURRED--NOT
HOW I FELT.



BUT AS
YOUR FRIEND,
I WAS VERY
PROUD AND
IMPRESSED.



STILL...HISTORY
WILL SHOW THE
KONGS I TRAIN
ALL LOST THIS
SEASON.

I EXPECT
HISTORY WILL
RECOUNT
LONG AND
REMARKABLE
BATTLES THAT
WERE
NARROWLY
DECIDED.

OH? AND
WILL THEY
MENTION
THAT THE
ATU--



SNFF
SNFF

HGRRRRR



AYE! CALM YOUR APES, I ONLY JUMPED DOWN TO HEAR WHAT THE GIRL WAS ABOUT TO ACCUSE US OF.

TO A STORYTELLER, NO LESS!

ALAS, WE WILL NEVER KNOW. FOR I WAS ABOUT TO ASK WHY ATU GORGE THEIR KONG ON OUR ISLAND'S PRECIOUS LIMITED RESOURCES--

--WHILE THE TAGU PEOPLE MUST SAIL FOR GREENER GRAZING-- JUST TO ENSURE THERE WILL STILL BE ENOUGH HERE FOR THE PEOPLE?!



OH--NO NEED FOR A STORYTELLER.

YOUR ANCESTORS WERE SIMPLY TOO LAZY TO CLAIM THESE FIELDS FIRST.



YOU SIT IN COMFORT AND ACCUSE OTHERS OF LAZINESS?!

TAGU HAVE BEEN FORCED TO WORK HARDER FOR GENERATIONS!

CRAFTING SHIPS LARGE ENOUGH TO CARRY KONG AND CREW TO OTHER ISLANDS! CULLING FOOD AND RESOURCES THERE TO AVOID PICKING OUR HOME BARE!

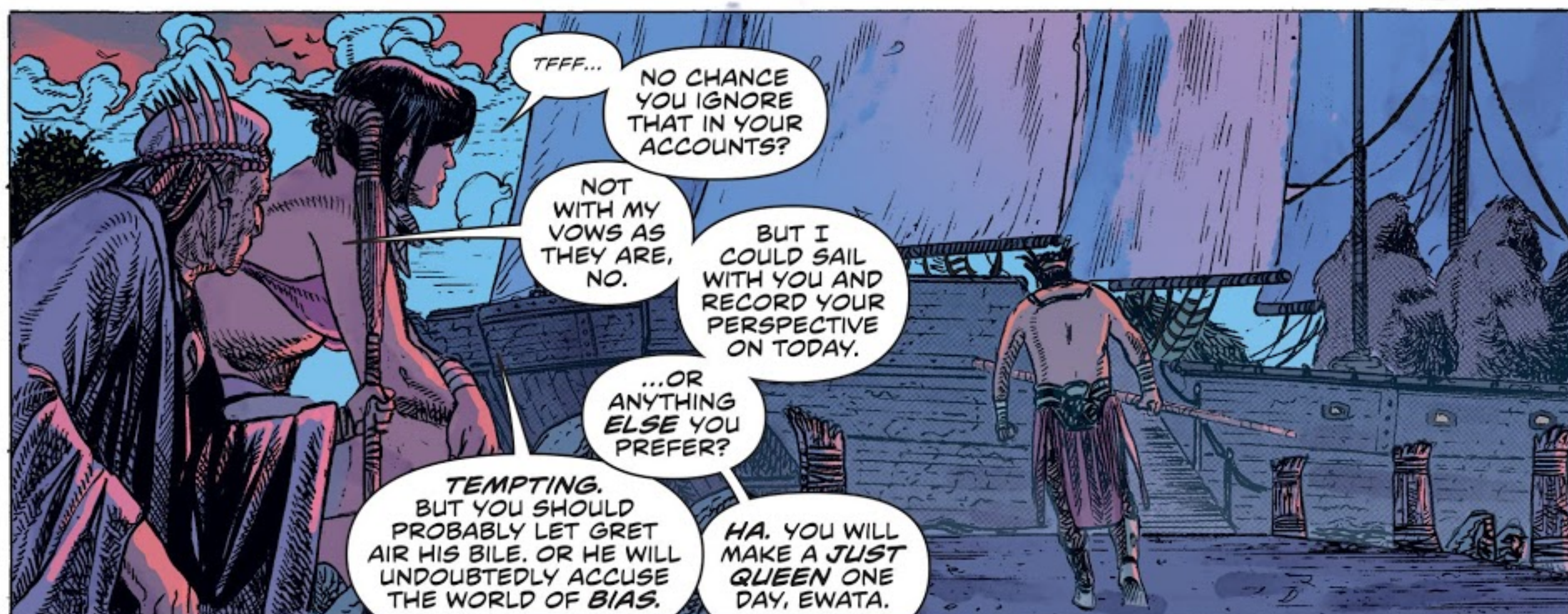


MBETI, IGNORE HIM--

YOU WILL NOT SWAY HIS THINKING.

ENJOY YOUR FRUIT AND YOUR GODS, GRET.

WE'LL BE SAILING THE GREAT OCEAN!



TFFF...

NO CHANCE YOU IGNORE THAT IN YOUR ACCOUNTS?

NOT WITH MY VOWS AS THEY ARE, NO.

BUT I COULD SAIL WITH YOU AND RECORD YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON TODAY.

...OR ANYTHING ELSE YOU PREFER?

TEMPTING. BUT YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LET GRET AIR HIS BILE. OR HE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ACCUSE THE WORLD OF BIAS.

HA. YOU WILL MAKE A JUST QUEEN ONE DAY, EWATA.



MY
APOLOGY
FOR KEEPING
YOU WAITING.
BUT...

...WHAT IS
THIS?

OUR
SCHOLARS HAVE
BEEN WATCHING
THE GREAT
MOUTH.

IT IS RISING--
AND GROWING
FAR, FAR MORE
VOLATILE.

WE FEAR
THE GODS...
MAY BE
ANGRY.



WHAT--
WHAT CAN
WE DO?!

V'DRELL
AND I HAVE
TRIED ALL WE
CAN THINK OF
FOR DAYS, TO
NO RELIEF.

IF THE
FIRE CONTINUES
TO RISE--



WE NEED
YOUR
SHIPS.

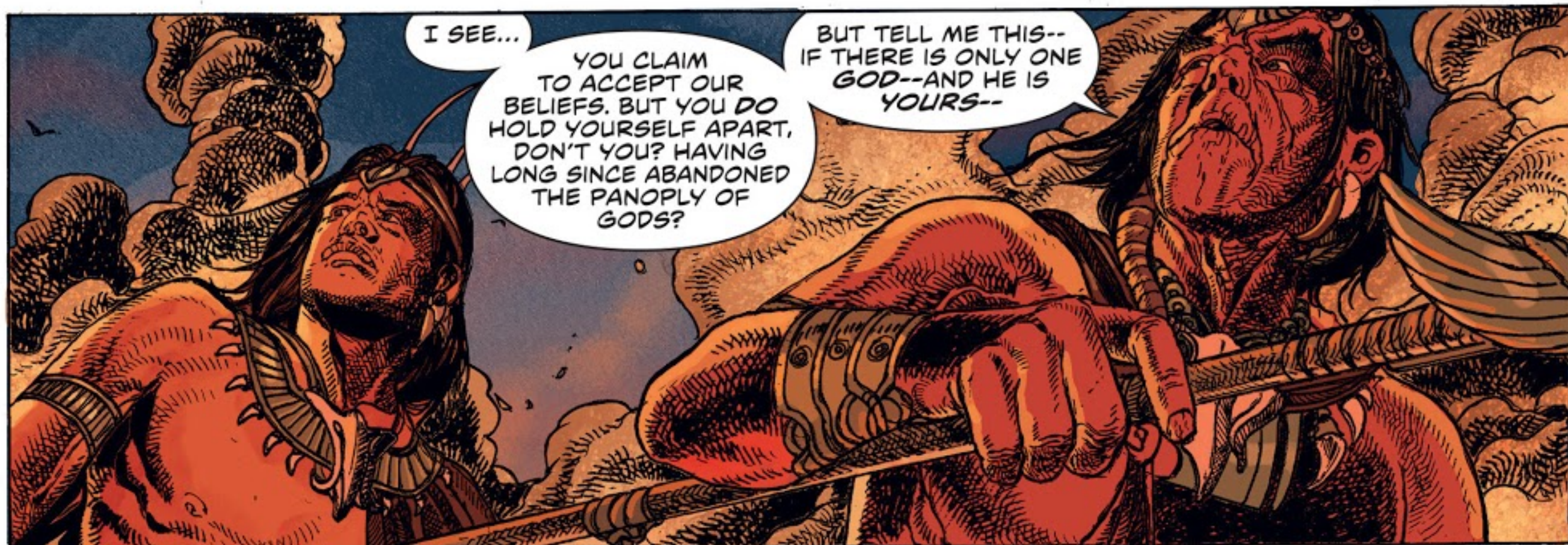
IF ONE OF
THE GODS SEES
FIT TO CLEANSE
THIS ISLAND--THOSE
BOATS COULD CARRY
BOTH OUR TRIBES.

NOT ALL
AT ONCE! AND
CERTAINLY NOT
IF WE MAKE
ROOM FOR THE
KONG.



TAGU SWEAT TO BUILD THOSE
SHIPS. THEY REPRESENT OUR
CONTINUED LABOR AND SCAVENGING
TO ENSURE OUR FAMILIES HAVE
ENOUGH TO EAT.

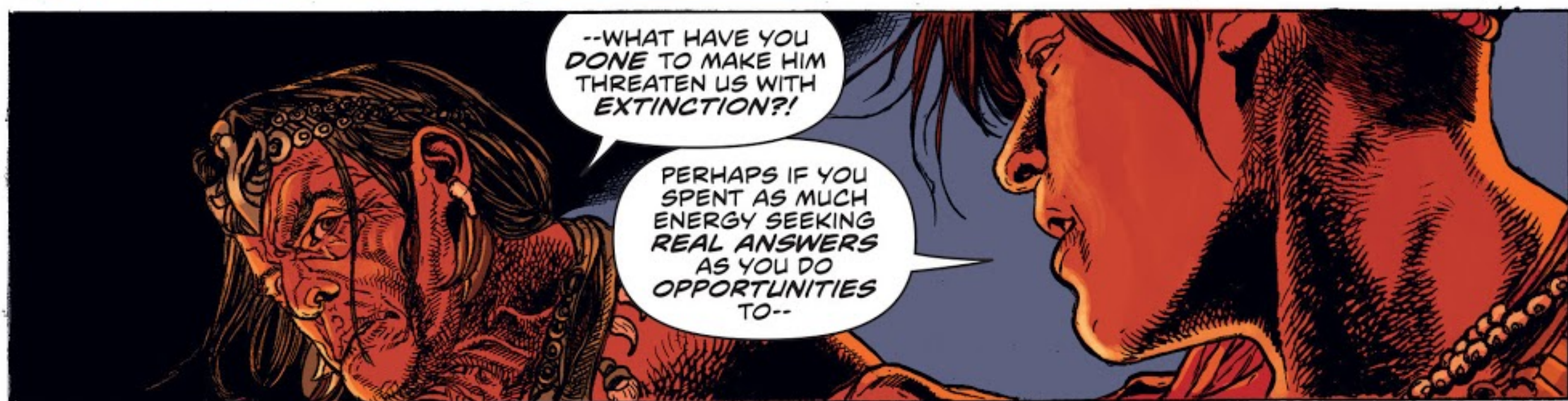
DO YOU SUGGEST I
MAKE THEM WAIT ON A
BURNING ROCK SO
THAT YOUR PEOPLE
REAP THE SAFETY OF
OUR LABOR?



I SEE...

YOU CLAIM TO ACCEPT OUR BELIEFS. BUT YOU DO HOLD YOURSELF APART, DON'T YOU? HAVING LONG SINCE ABANDONED THE PANOPLY OF GODS?

BUT TELL ME THIS-- IF THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD--AND HE IS YOURS--



--WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MAKE HIM THREATEN US WITH EXTINCTION?!

PERHAPS IF YOU SPENT AS MUCH ENERGY SEEKING REAL ANSWERS AS YOU DO OPPORTUNITIES TO--



PRINCE K'RETI, PLEASE.

YOU AND MY FATHER ARE BOTH SHAKEN.

BUT, DIVIDED AS WE MAY BE IN OUR IDEAS, OUR TRIBES ARE STILL OF ONE BLOOD.



THANK YOU, DAUGHTER. ANY PREPARATIONS WILL BE TRYING ENOUGH.

THERE WILL NATURALLY BE PANIC AND VOLATILITY WHEN WE TELL OUR PEOPLE. IF THERE WERE EVER A TIME TO DEMONSTRATE STRENGTH AND UNITY BETWEEN US...

MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES. OF COURSE, YOU ARE RIGHT.

AND, IN FACT... IF WE WISH THE TAGU AND ATU TO SEE THEMSELVES AS ONE PEOPLE AS WE ENTER THIS DARK HOUR--



--THEN LET US FORGE THAT UNION BEFORE THEM!

START A NEW ERA. A NEW REIGN!

A NEW KING AND QUEEN OF THE TAGU-ATU!



OH,
NO...

NO-NO-
N--!



≡HURGGGLGGLL--≡



GFF...OF ALL THE DAYS
FOR SEA-SICKNESS...

MBATI?
FINISH
ATTENDING
THE KONG
FOR ME?
I NEED TO...
HLMF...



HRRRMN...

THANK
YOU,
VALLA.

MAYBE
I SHOULD
TRY TO
SLEEP?



SNNT--
FFERRGH?

HN?
WHAT? YOU
THINK I...ATE
SOMETHING
BAD?

HNNT.



EWATA?
THE
WINDS--

I WAS NOT
ABLE TO KEEP
COURSE.
BUT WE SPIED
LAND,
ONLY--

--I NEED
YOU TO
SEE
THIS!



PLEASE,
TELL ME THAT
IS NOT...

**SKULL
ISLAND.**



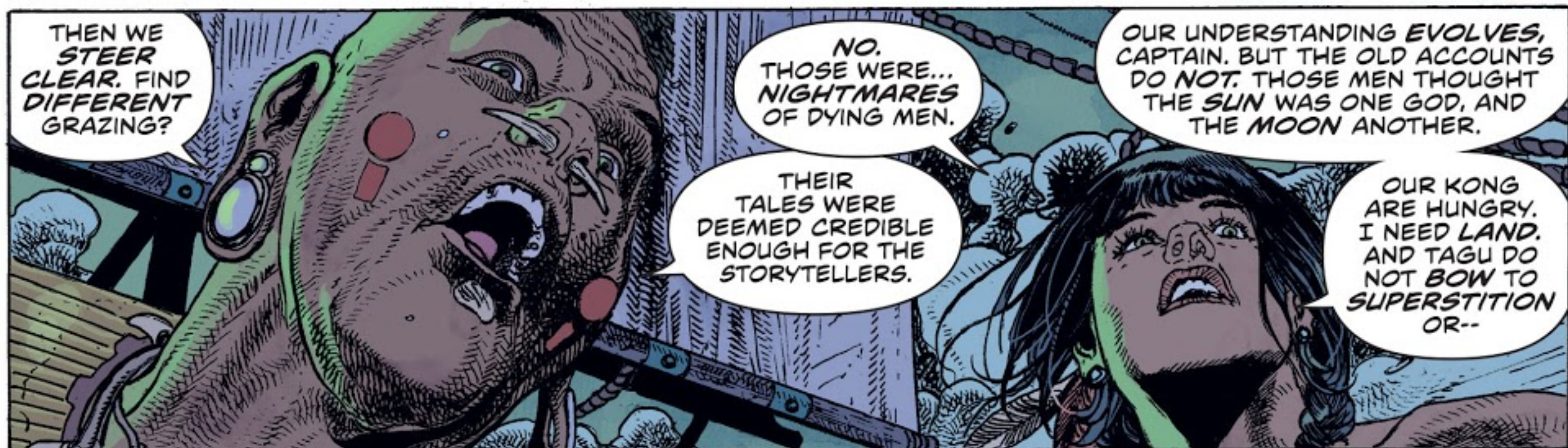
WHAT IS THAT PLACE?

SKULL ISLAND IS A NAME THE STORYTELLERS ONLY WHISPER.



A PLACE SUPPOSEDLY FILLED WITH MONSTERS.

BUT THE ACCOUNTS CAME FROM MEN WHO WERE WOUNDED AND FEVERISH.



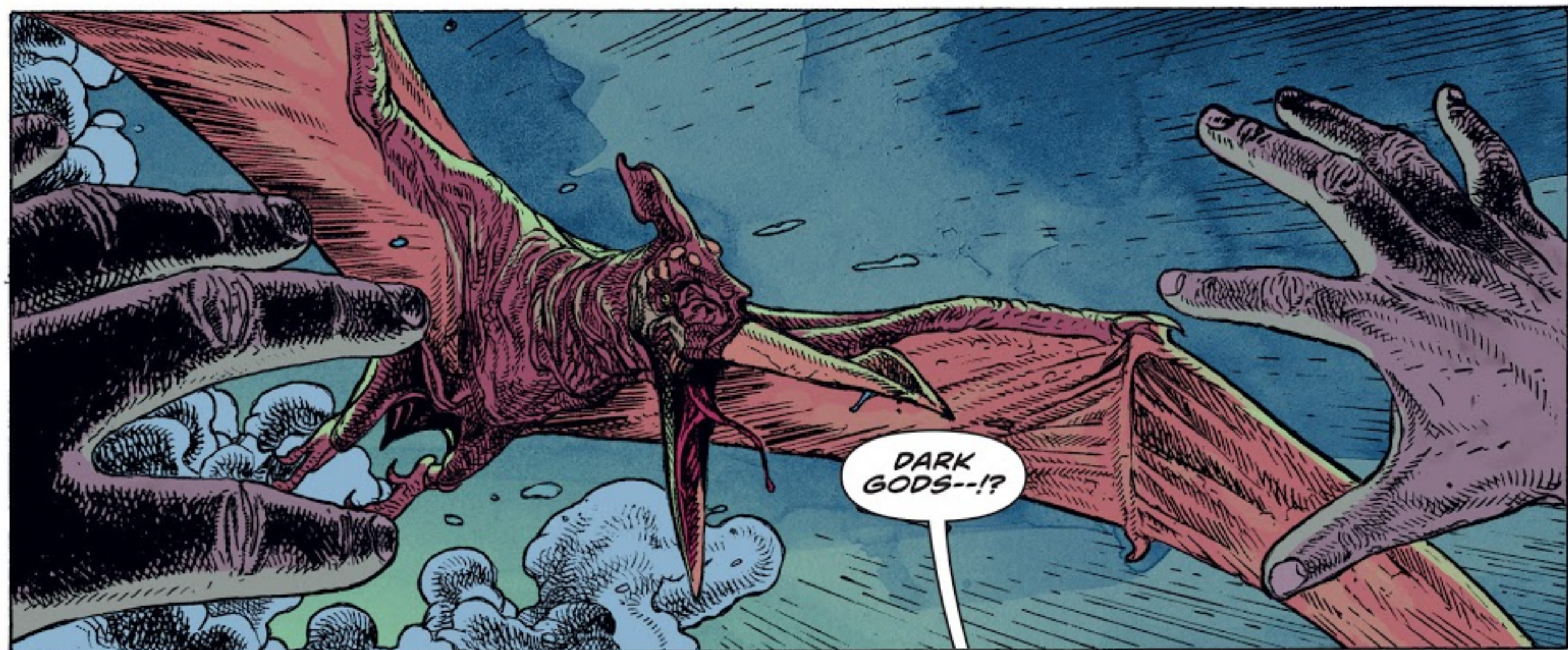
THEN WE STEER CLEAR. FIND DIFFERENT GRAZING?

NO. THOSE WERE... NIGHTMARES OF DYING MEN.

THEIR TALES WERE DEEMED CREDIBLE ENOUGH FOR THE STORYTELLERS.

OUR UNDERSTANDING EVOLVES, CAPTAIN. BUT THE OLD ACCOUNTS DO NOT. THOSE MEN THOUGHT THE SUN WAS ONE GOD, AND THE MOON ANOTHER.

OUR KONG ARE HUNGRY. I NEED LAND. AND TAGU DO NOT BOW TO SUPERSTITION OR--



DARK GODS--!?



THEY SPOTTED US!

COMING TOO FAST.

EVERYONE-- GET THE KONG AND PREPARE FOR--



FEW PEOPLE
SURVIVED OUR
TRAGIC FIRST
CONTACT WITH
SKULL ISLAND
AND SURVIVED
TO TELL THEIR
TALE.

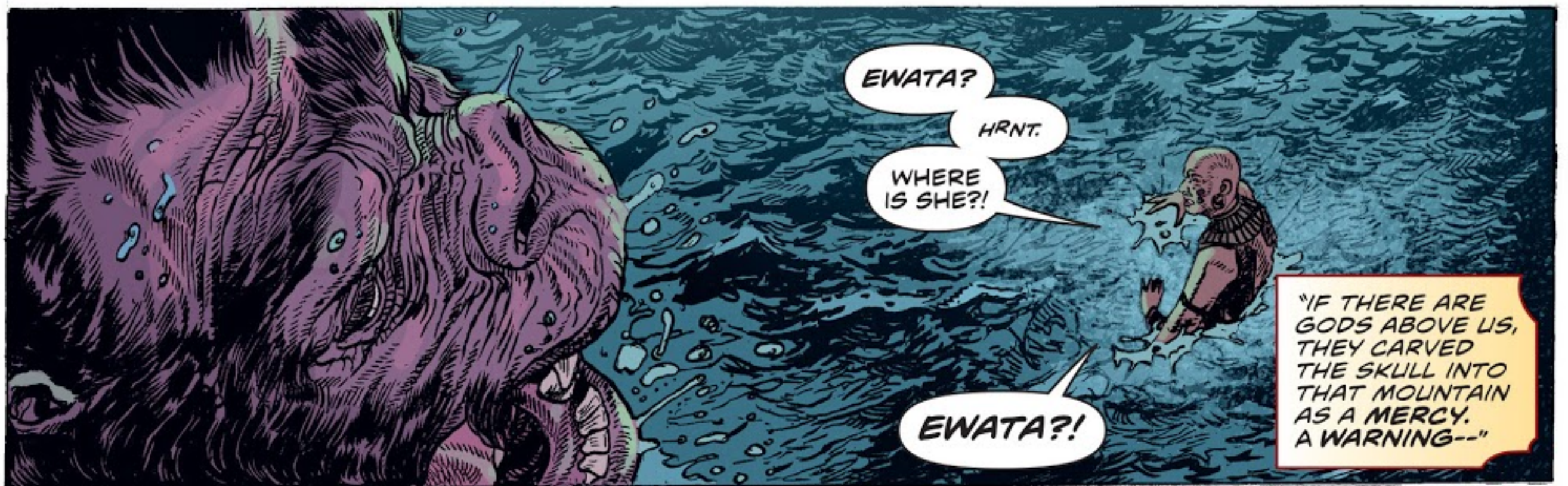


OF THOSE WHO DID, ONE TOLD ME, AS HE SWAM DESPERATELY TO SHORE, THE GRIM VISAGE BOBBING IN AND OUT OF VIEW, ONLY ONE THOUGHT FORMED IN HIS MIND--

SWIM FOR SHORE! TO THE ROCKS!

IS ANYONE STILL--?

GNAAAAAA?!



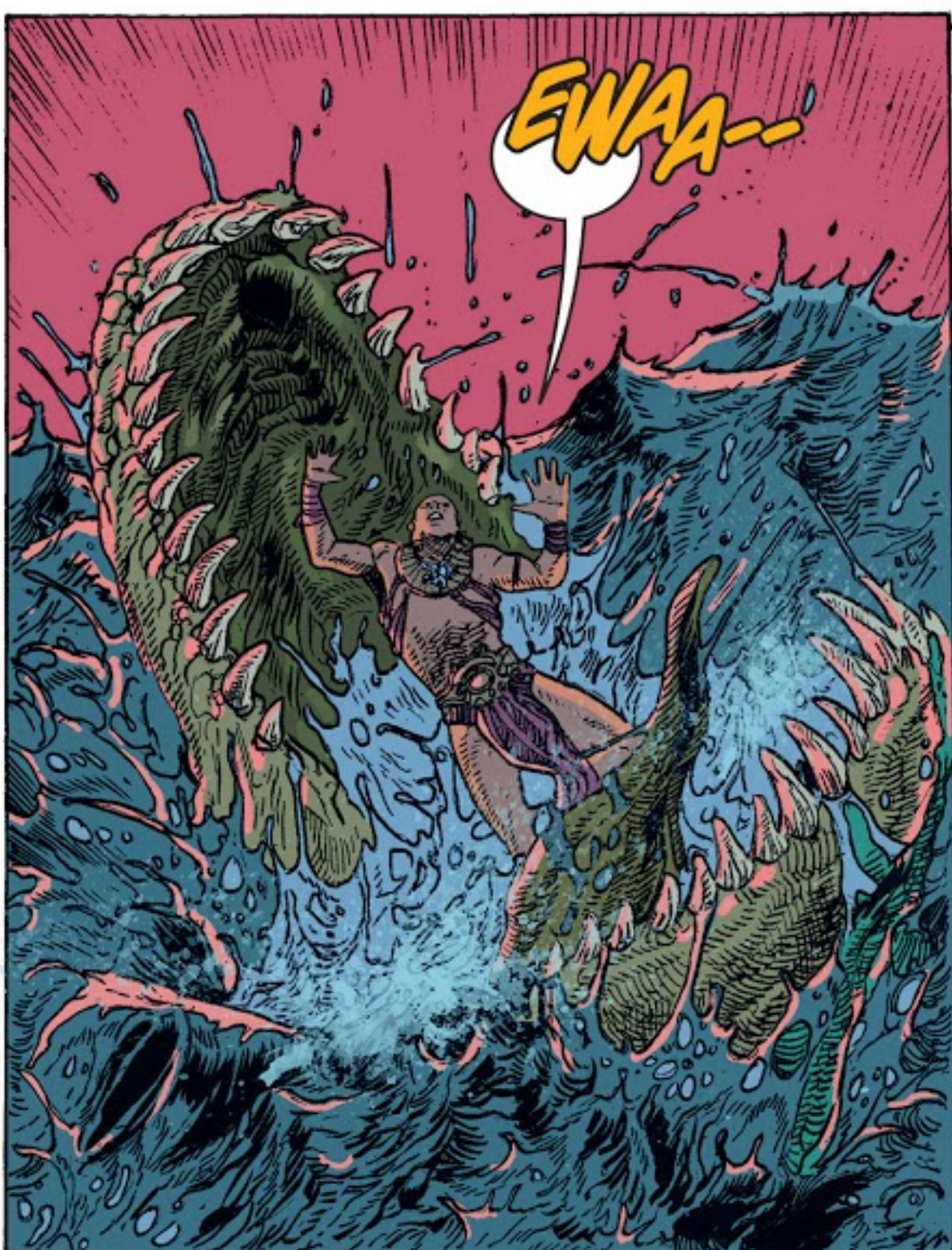
EWATA?

HRNT.

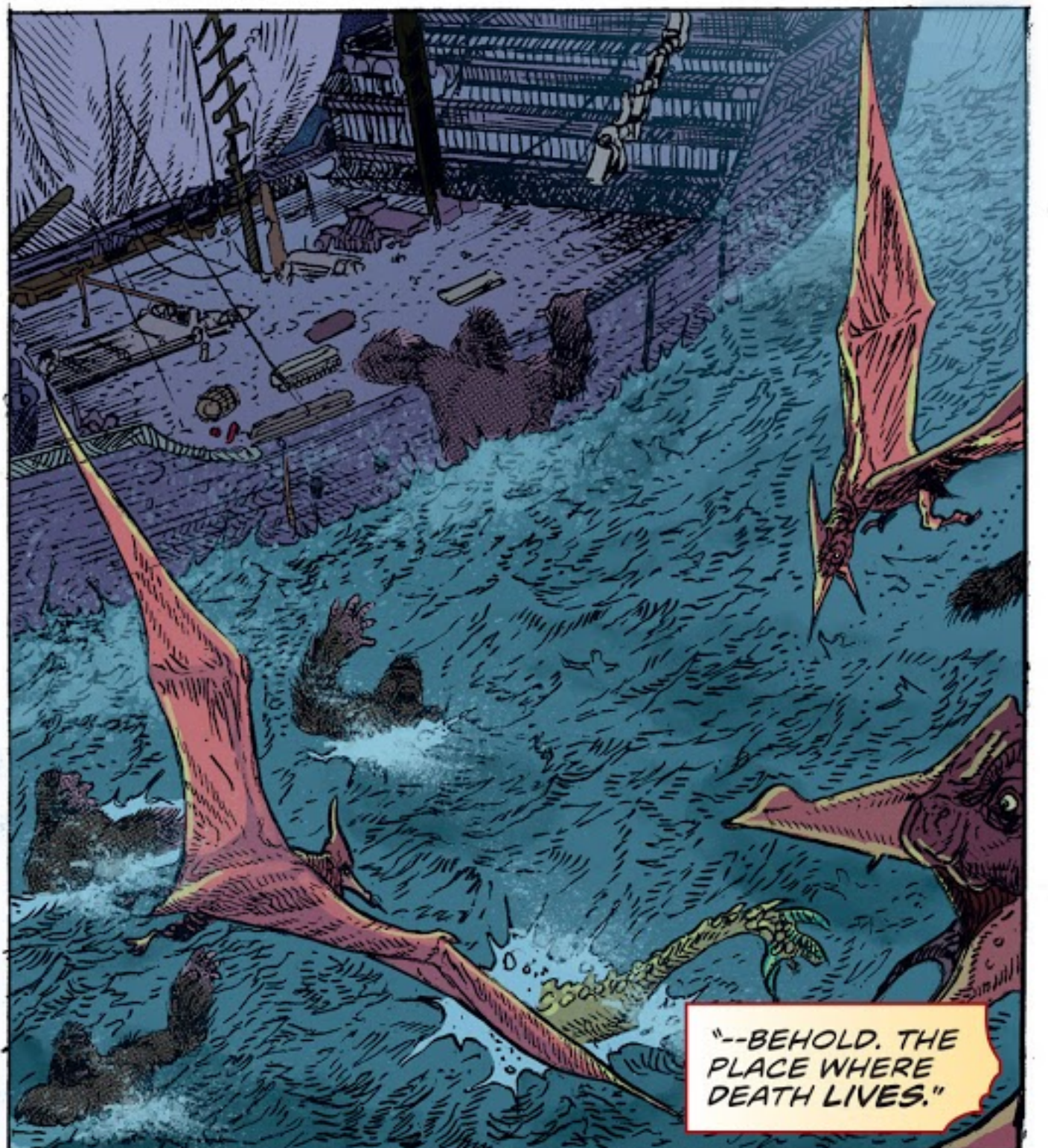
WHERE IS SHE?!

EWATA?!


IF THERE ARE GODS ABOVE US, THEY CARVED THE SKULL INTO THAT MOUNTAIN AS A MERCY. A WARNING--




EWAA--



--BEHOLD. THE PLACE WHERE DEATH LIVES.




EVEN AS A SURVIVOR,
HE HAD NO IDEA HOW
PROPHETIC THAT
SENTIMENT WAS.



PERHAPS WE WERE TOO
BLINDED BY THE PETTY
CONFLICTS OF THE DAY
TO SEE SUCH WARNINGS--
NO MATTER HOW LARGE.




OR PERHAPS WE HAD
WRONGED OUR GOD--
WHETHER BY NEGLIGENCE
OR BLASPHEMY?



EVEN AS I RECORD AND REVIEW
EVERY ACCOUNT OF WHAT LED
US DOWN THIS PATH, I CANNOT
SAY WHERE FAULT SHOULD LIE.

IN EITHER EVENT, GOD SAW
FIT TO DELIVER MOST OF US
TO THE CURSED ISLE--



--AND DEATH
WAS COMING
FOR US, NO
MATTER
WHAT.

TO BE CONTINUED...

KONG

OF SKULL ISLAND™

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
BRAD SIMPSON

NO. 2 OF 6

BOOM!
STUDIOS





WHAT
JUST--?



DEAR
GOD--

--WE ARE
ALL ABOUT
TO DIE.



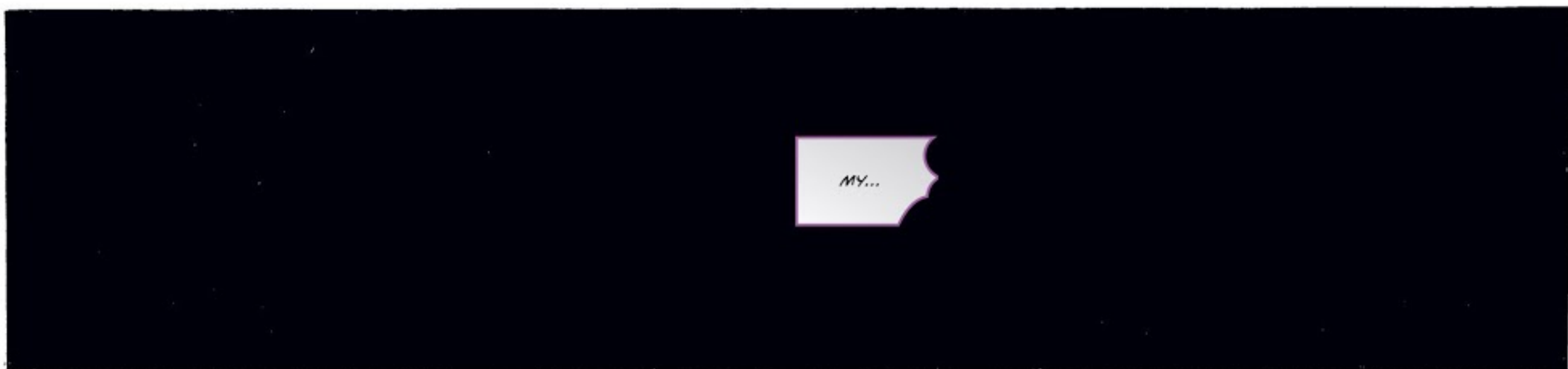
DID I
CAUSE
IT...?

IGNORING
OUR HISTORY...
WARNING
SIGNS.



I BROUGHT
US TO OUR
DEATH...

...MY FRIENDS...
MY FRIENDS.

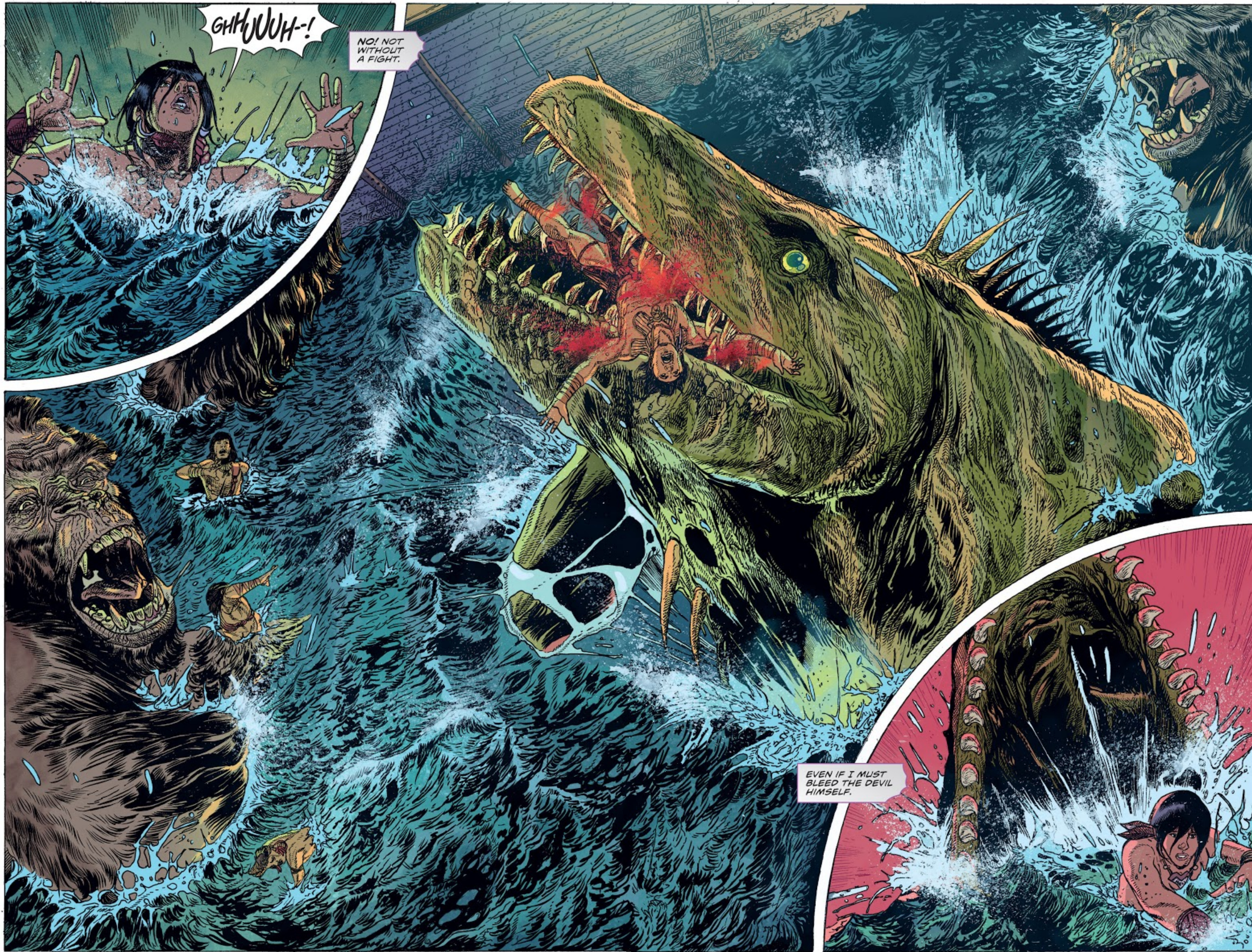


MY...

GHHUUH--!

NO! NOT
WITHOUT
A FIGHT.

EVEN IF I MUST
BLEED THE DEVIL
HIMSELF.



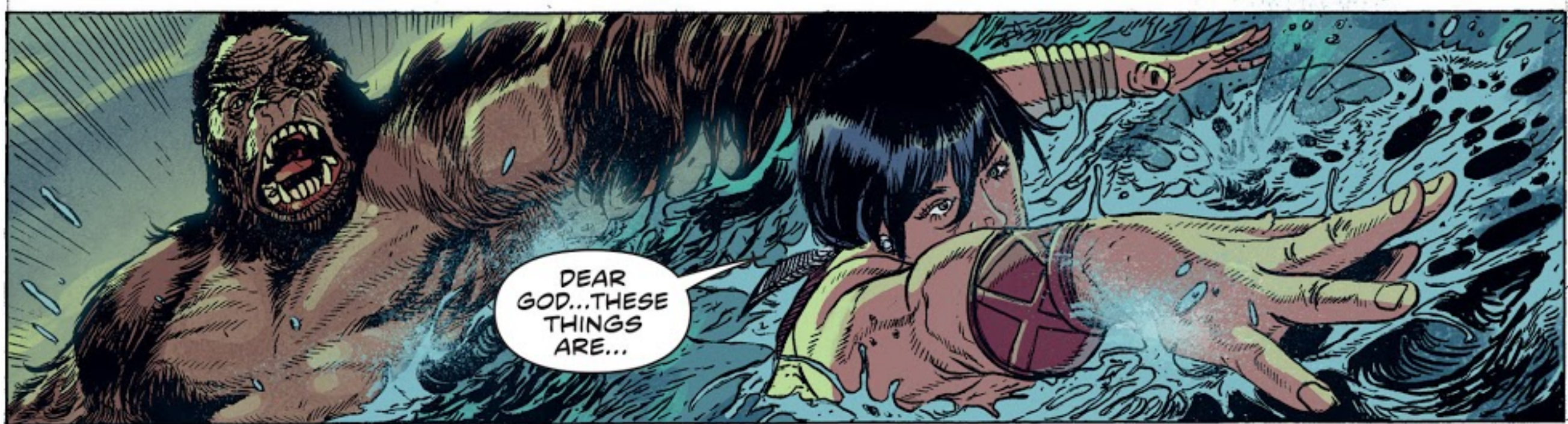


HRRRGH!

FER'RAH!
THE EYE!



SKEEEEEEE



DEAR
GOD...THESE
THINGS
ARE...

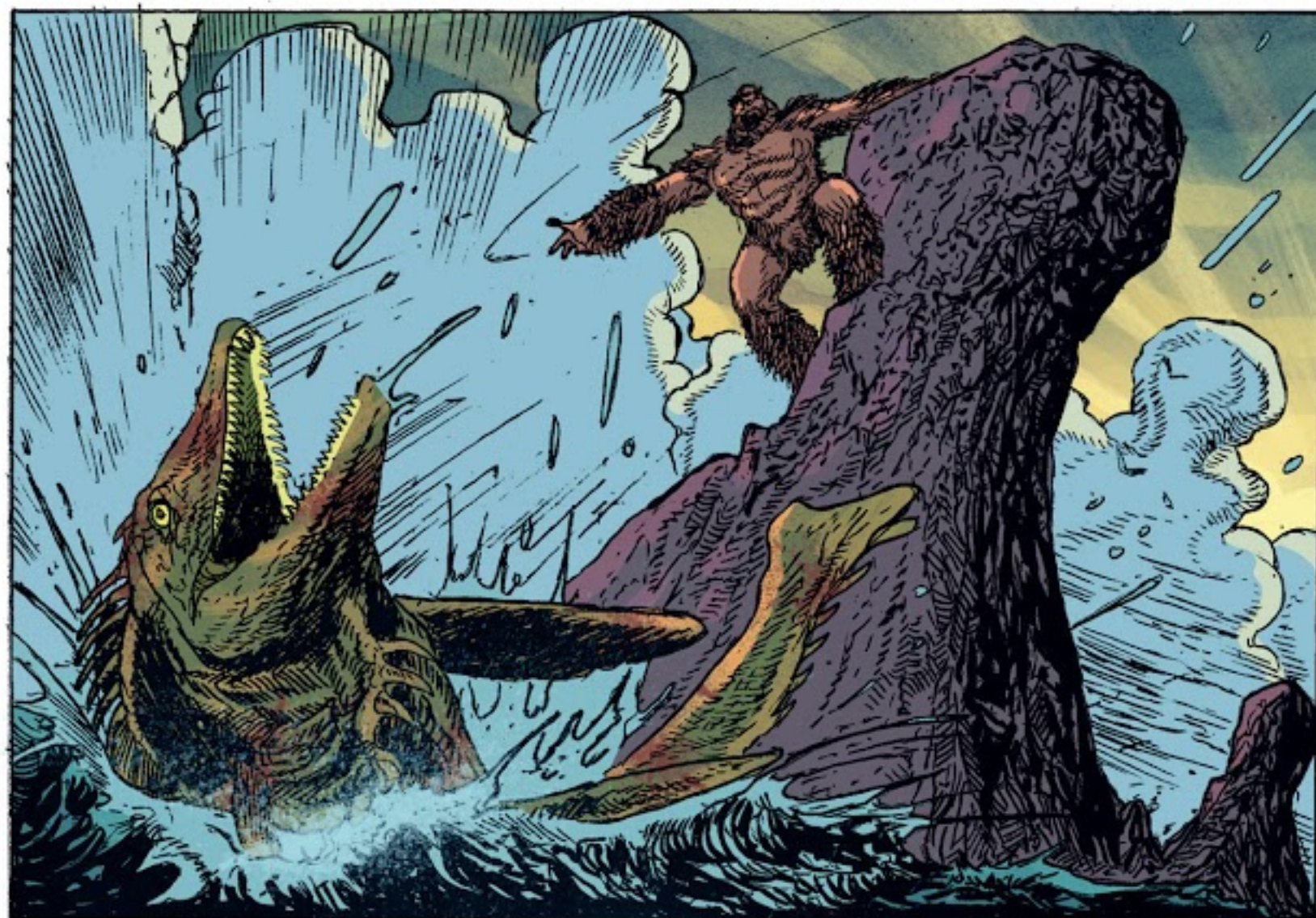


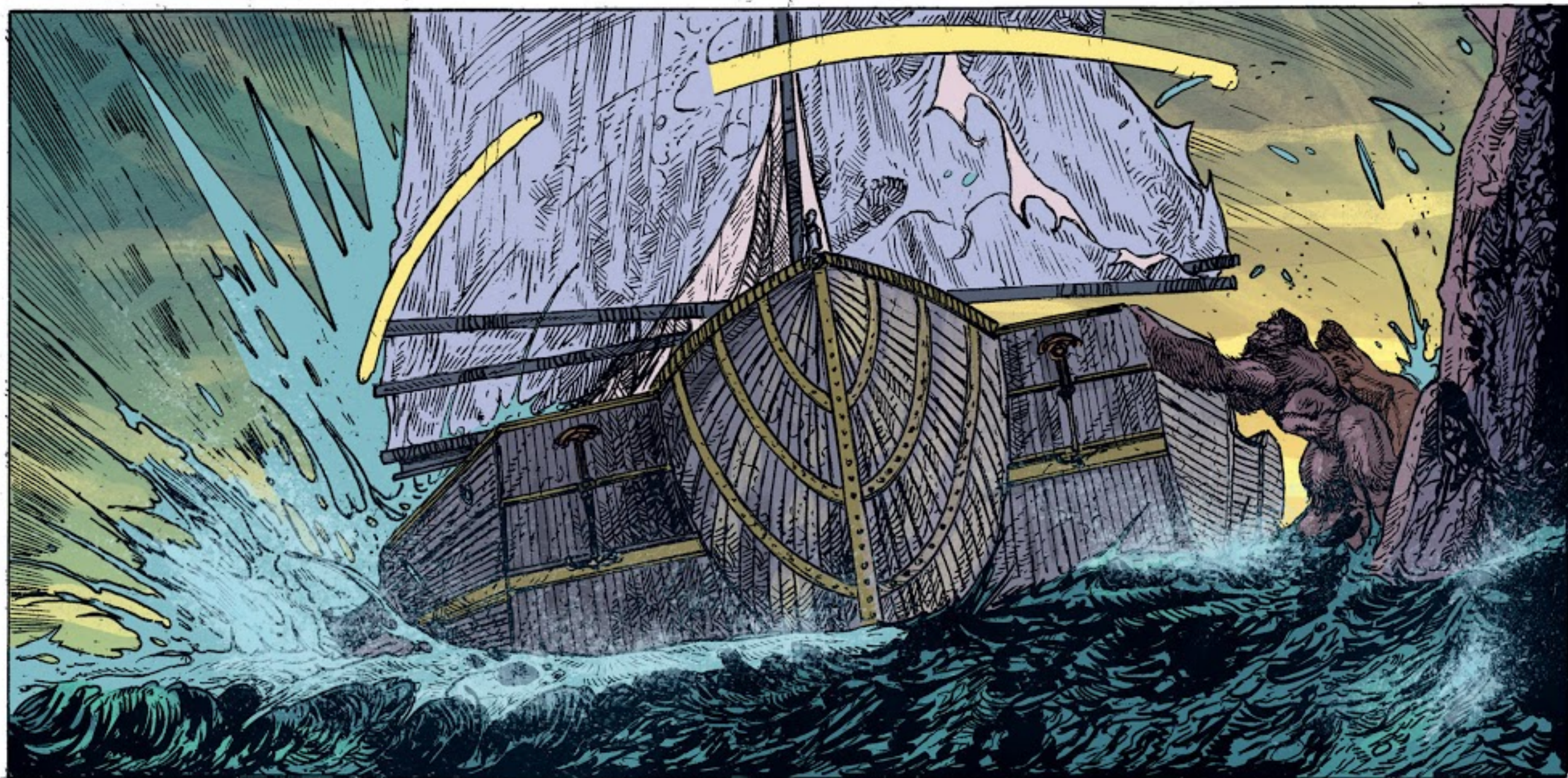
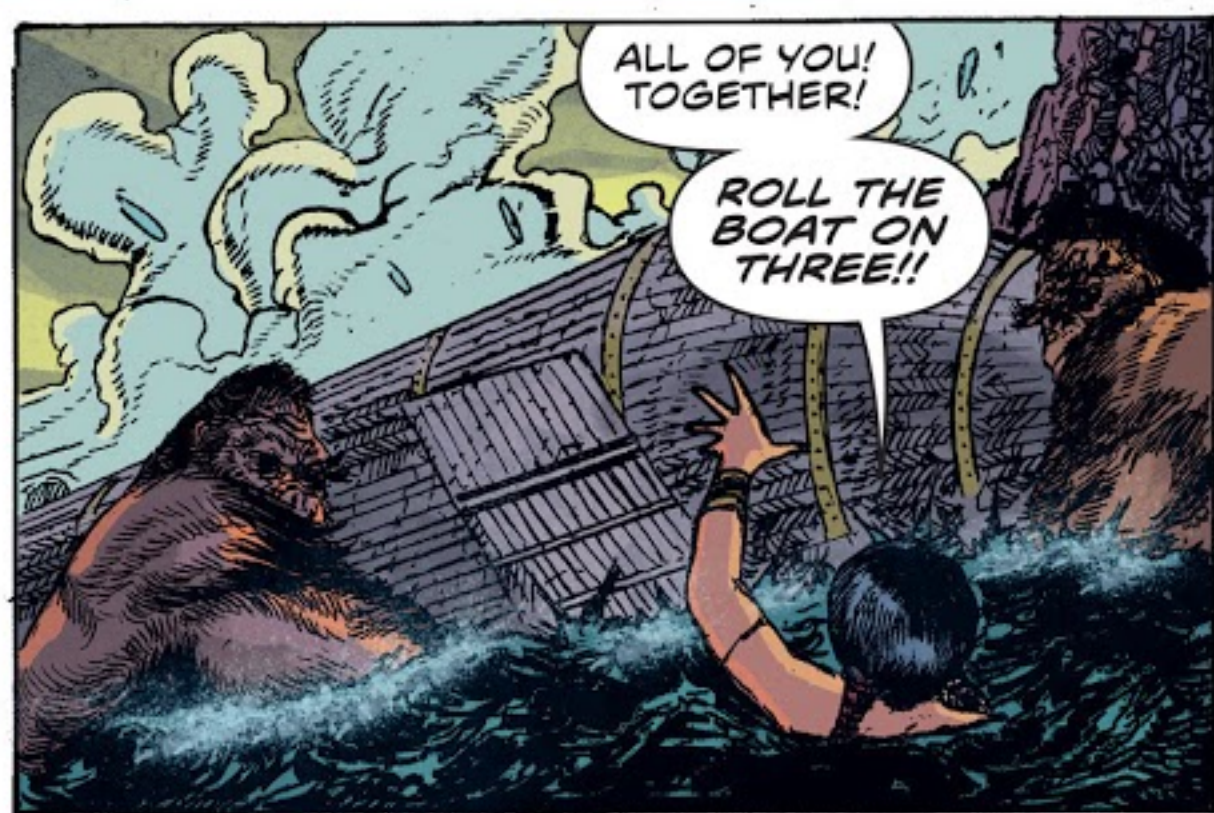
KONGA!
HERE!

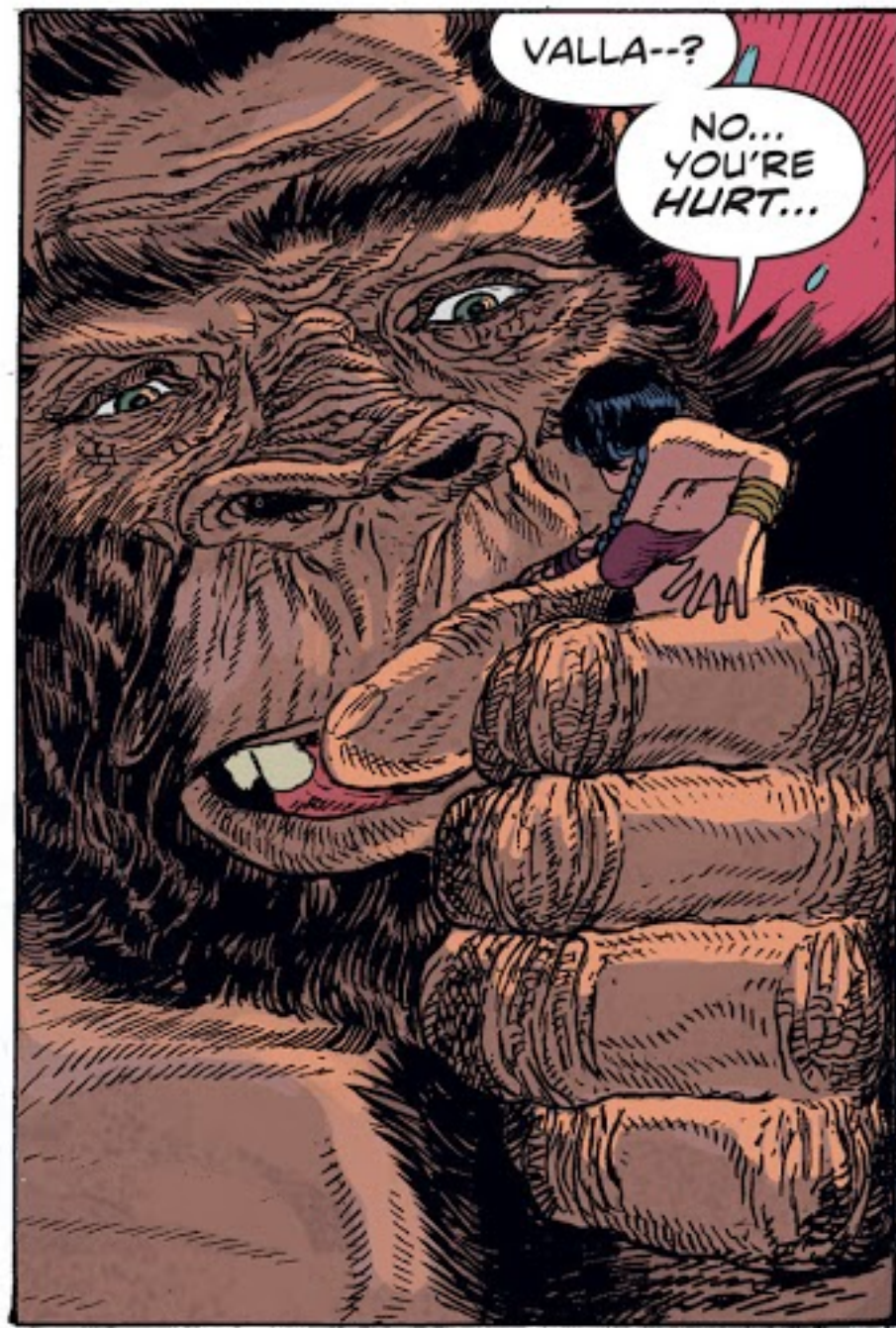
THE REST
OF YOU--GO!!
GET OUT OF
THE WATER!

THERE
COULD BE
MORE OF
THESE!

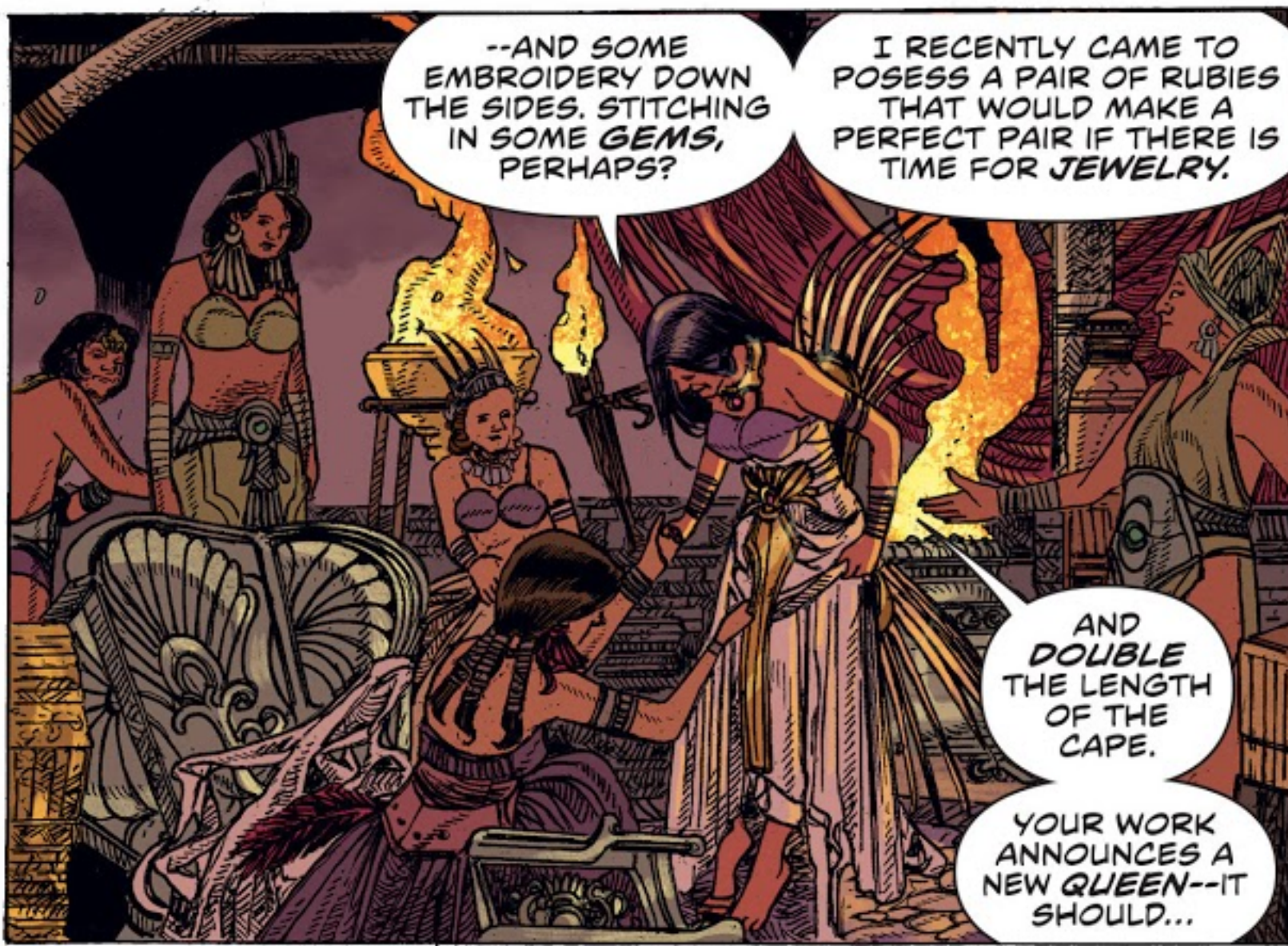












--AND SOME EMBROIDERY DOWN THE SIDES. STITCHING IN SOME GEMS, PERHAPS?

I RECENTLY CAME TO POSESS A PAIR OF RUBIES THAT WOULD MAKE A PERFECT PAIR IF THERE IS TIME FOR JEWELRY.

AND DOUBLE THE LENGTH OF THE CAPE.

YOUR WORK ANNOUNCES A NEW QUEEN--IT SHOULD...



HNNRRMMNNRRMMNN



...STEAL THE BREATH FROM THEIR VERY THROATS.

YES. VERY GOOD, YOUR GRACE.

BUT...

WHAT OF THE MOUNTAIN? THERE ARE MEN AT THE BAY LOADING SHIPS WITH OUR WINTER SUPPLIES.

SH-SHOULD WE BE PREPARING OUR FAMILIES--



THIS WEDDING IS A TRIBUTE TO THE GODS.

AND THEY PROTECT THOSE WHO TOIL IN THEIR SERVICE.



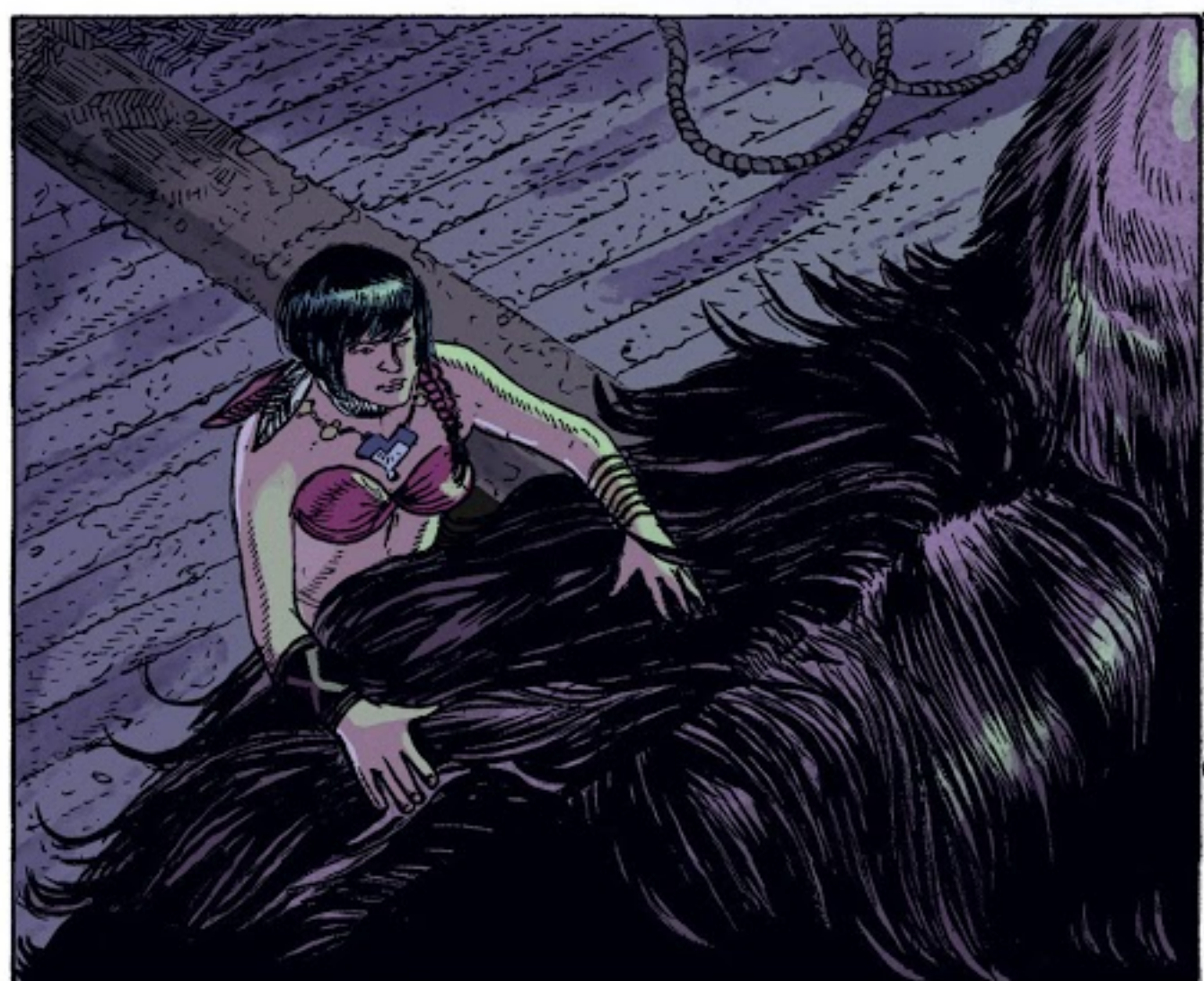
WEAR THEIR BLESSING.

AND TAKE COMFORT IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT, AS YOU UPHOLD YOUR RIGHTEOUS TASK FOR TOMORROW--



--THERE ARE OTHERS FORGING THE DESTINY THAT FOLLOWS.







USANA--!

K'RETI?
WHAT BRINGS
YOU TO THIS
SIDE OF THE
ISLAND?

MAY
I...SPEAK
WITH YOU
PRIVATELY?

OF COURSE.

THIS
WAY.



LEAVE
US.

I'M SORRY
TO INTRUDE,
BUT THIS
CRAZY--

NO INTRUSION.
THE GODS
WELCOME ALL TO
THEIR TEMPLE.

AND WHAT TYPE
OF UNION WILL OURS
BE IF I CAN'T MAKE
TIME FOR MY
BETROTHED?



AND NOW--YOU
WERE SAYING?

I FAIL TO
SEE HOW A
THEATRICAL
MARRIAGE
SAVES ANY
LIVES.

SURELY
THIS CAN'T
BE WHAT YOU
DREAMED OF
FOR YOUR
FUTURE.

IF WE BOTH
SPOKE TO OUR
FATHERS--



MINE
WOULD
STILL
NOT BE
MOVED.

MY
FATHER'S
FAITH IS
SINCERE. IF HE
BELIEVES A
UNION IS THE
WILL OF THE
GODS--HE
WILL NOT BE
SWAYED.



WHAT ABOUT
YOU? DO YOU
SERVE THE
GODS OR YOUR
FATHER?

TO MY EYES,
THERE IS A TRUTH
GREATER THAN GODS,
GREATER THAN YOUR
STUDIES--THE DRIVING
FORCE BEHIND BOTH
THOSE THINGS.



THE TRUE
MOTIVATION
BEHIND ALL?

PEOPLE
FEAR
CHAOS.

BUT NATURE IS
CHAOS. LIFE IS
UNPREDICTABLE.
SO...?

RELIGION,
FARMING, SHELTER,
MARRIAGE--EVERY
HUMAN-MADE SYSTEM
IS DESIGNED TO GIVE
US SOME FEELING
THAT OUR LIVES ARE
UNDER CONTROL.



BUT THOSE
SECURITIES ARE AN
EMPTY PROMISE.
GODS ALLOW
SUFFERING. CROPS
WITHER. LOVERS
BETRAY...



STILL, MOST PEOPLE NEED
THE LIE IN ORDER TO GO
ABOUT THEIR LIVES. WE ARE
ALL **FLAWED** AND **FALLABLE**
PEOPLE BUILDING THINGS AS
IMPERFECT AS WE ARE--

--THEN
CONVINCE
OURSELVES THESE
CREATIONS CAN
SAVE US.

SO, TO ANSWER YOUR
QUESTION--NO, I DO
NOT THINK A MARRIAGE
WILL SAVE LIVES.

BUT IF THE PEOPLE OF
BOTH OUR TRIBES FEEL THEIR
LEADERS ARE IN **CONTROL**,
POSSESSING VISION AND
STRENGTH--?



"--THAT MAY BE THE ONLY THING THAT KEEPS THEIR FEAR FROM GIVING WAY TO CHAOS."



AH! THE KING LOADS HIS SHIPS WITH MONTHS OF SUPPLIES--BUT LIES TO SAY THERE IS NOTHING TO FEAR?! AS OUR SKY GOES BLACK?!

WE ARE NOT LEAVING. AND THESE SHIPS ARE TAGU PROPERTY, SO--

BUT YOU FILL IT WITH FRUITS GROWN IN THE ATU VILLAGE! THERE--!

LET US ON THAT SHIP! YOU TAKE US WHEREVER IT IS YOU FLEE TO!



ENOUGH! WE WILL WAIT INSIDE UNTIL YOU DO SET SAIL!

I WILL NOT RISK MY FAMILY ONE MORE MINUTE ON THIS--

--FFTWEEEE!



HRRGGG

YOU HEAR? ATU KONG!

THE KING AND YOUR SHAMAN PREPARE TOGETHER. YOU WILL NOT BE LEFT TO DIE. BECAUSE--IF YOU WASTE ONE MORE MINUTE OF OUR TIME?

THRAAL!





HGGRRRRR

I'LL FEED
YOU TO THIS
STINKING--

EXCUSE THE
INTERRUPTION.

BUT PLEASE--
GO ABOUT WHATEVER
BEHAVIOR YOU WISHED
TO BE REMEMBERED
FOR THROUGHOUT
THE GENERATIONS.



STORYTELLER.
WE WERE SIMPLY
PLEADING A RIGHT
TO PASSAGE OFF
THE ISLAND!

THE ATU MADE A
SURVIVAL STOCK--BUT WE
FIND TAGU WHO CLAIM
ENTITLED TO TAKE IT
WITHOUT ANY--

YOU OPPOSE COMMUNAL
RESOURCES? YET YOU WISH
TO EXPLOIT OUR LABOR
THAT BUILT THESE SHIPS! YOU
ARE LUCKY WE DON'T--



HRRRNMBRNRRRR



IT
PASSED.

BUT IF I
MAY TURN THE
SUBJECT...?

DO YOU
KNOW WHICH
NAMES A
STORYTELLER
IS TAUGHT
FIRST?



THE
LEADERS
WHO
BROUGHT
ABOUT OUR
KONG.

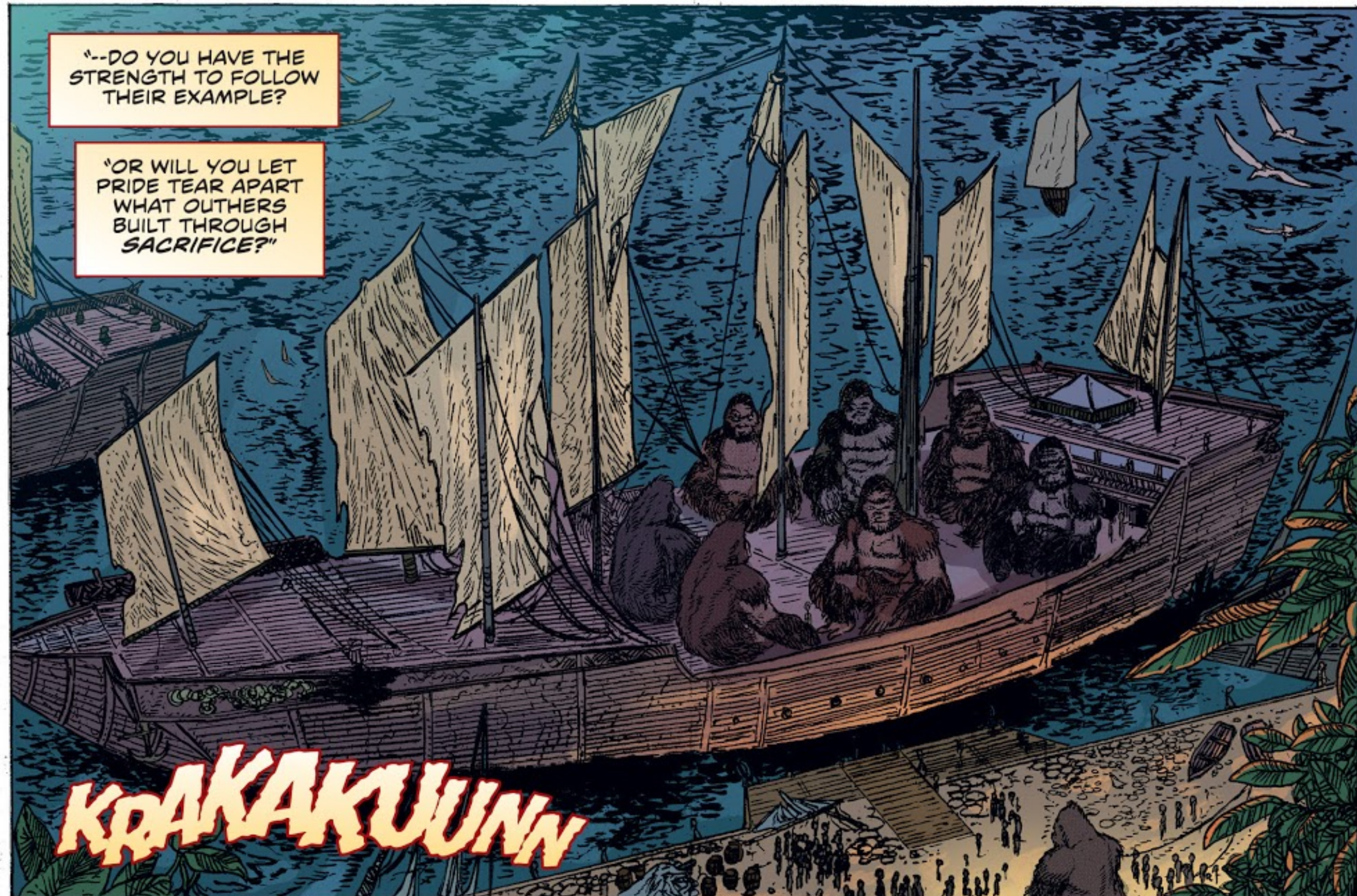
TAGU
SCHOLARS
PIONEERED
SELECTIVE
BREEDING. THE
ATU SHAMAN AND
ALCHEMISTS
DEVELOPED
GROWTH
STIMULANTS.
TOGETHER.



THEY FACED
DISASTER,
PREDATORS, AND
INSTABILITY--

--BUT
THROUGH
UNITING,
EMERGED AS
SOMETHING
STRONGER,
GREATER
THAN EVER
BEFORE.

TELL ME--IF
YOUR GODS AND
SCHOLARS ARE
PREPARING FOR
UPHEAVAL
AGAIN--



"--DO YOU HAVE THE
STRENGTH TO FOLLOW
THEIR EXAMPLE?"

"OR WILL YOU LET
PRIDE TEAR APART
WHAT OUTHERS
BUILT THROUGH
SACRIFICE?"

KRAKAKUUNN



WAS
THAT--?!

NO.
WE'RE
HOME.
SAFE.



MBETI? TRY
TO KEEP THE KONG
CLOSE AND CALM. THE
REST OF YOU--TEND TO
THE WOUNDED. I WILL
HURRY TO FIND THE
SHAMAN.


ARE...
WHY ARE THE
OTHER SHIPS
PREPPED?



WHAT...?

WHAT
DID WE
MISS?





--PRESENT TO YOU THE NEWLY
SANCTIFIED KING
AND QUEEN OF
THE UNITED
TAGUATU
PEOPLE--!

HHRRMMBBMMHHRRMMB-B-BRRK-K-



--KR'KQOOMF

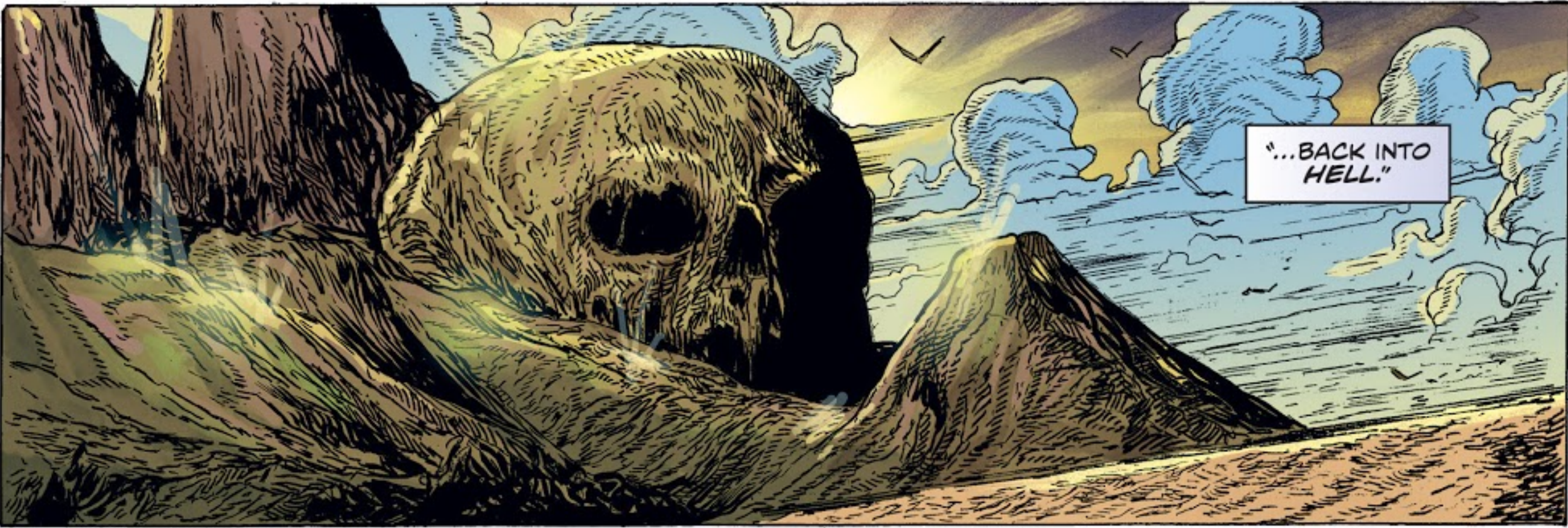


AY!
WHAT--?!

TURN
BACK!
SHIPS--GET
TO THE
SHIPS!!

DEAR
GOD...
NO--!

THE
WINDS HAVEN'T
CHANGED! IF WE
SAIL NOW...WE'LL
LAND RIGHT
BACK...



"...BACK INTO
HELL."



CHTRP-
HRRT--?






KONG

OF SKULL ISLAND™

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
BRAD SIMPSON

NO. 3 OF 6
BOOM!
STUDIOS





THE TAGU AND ATU TRIBES--
TWO IDEOLOGICAL FACTIONS
OF A GREAT PEOPLE--

--A PEOPLE WHO DECODED THE
SECRETS OF COUNTLESS SCIENTIFIC
AND MATHEMATIC TRUTHS WITHOUT
EVER ENCOUNTERING ANOTHER
CIVILIZATION--

--A PEOPLE WHO PIONEERED A BREEDING
SCIENCE THAT, IN A THOUSAND YEARS,
TURNED APES INTO KONG--

--THESE TWO FACTIONS, AS
SHREWD AS THEY WERE, HAD
GROWN SO CERTAIN OF THEIR
OWN PERMANENCE THAT THEY
WERE RAPT BY PAGEANTRY--

HGGRAAA!

--WHEN UTTER
DESTRUCTION ERUPTED
BENEATH THEIR FEET.

DEAR
GODS...IF THE
ISLAND ITSELF
SPLITS--

YET, DISASTER OFTEN
REVEALS THE TRUE
NATURE OF THINGS.

THE
SHIPS--!

THEY EXPECTED
THIS--BUT THE
BASTARDS NEVER
WARNED US!

WHAT--?!

WE WERE
MADE TO
LOAD
SUPPLIES
ONTO THOSE
KONG
SHIPS!

MASSIVE
STORES OF
FOOD--BUILDING
MATERIAL!

IT'S ALL
THERE! BUT
WE HAVE TO
GO NOW!

AND IN DISASTER, THOSE
BONDS THAT ARE NOT
STRENGTHENED AND
PROTECTED--

GO!
GOOO!

THE
KONG ARE

LOOSE!

THUMP LSSSH

--TEND TO DIE ALONGSIDE
THE UNFORTUNATE.

THE
VILLAGE!
GO! WE--
WE'LL BE
SAFE
THERE!

K'RETI!
THEY RUN
INLAND?!

OH NO. MY
FATHER KEPT
OUR PLANS
SECRET. TO
KEEP
ORDER--

WE
HAVE TO GET
THEM TO THE
SHIPS!

USANA--
WAIT!
YOU'D BE
TRAMPLED!

YOU'RE
RIGHT. WE
NEED A
KONG.

EWATA!

EWATA...?



HRG--HGGG--

GOOD
HOLD,
VALLA!

NOW--
CALM!
SETTLE.
WE
ONLY--

EWATA
OF THE
ATU!



YOUR
NEW KING
AND QUEEN
CALL YOUR
AID!



WE NEED YOUR
MORE...DISCIPLINED
KONG TO CONTROL
THIS CHAOS.

THAT'S
PRECISELY
WHAT YOU JUST
CALLED ME
AWAY FROM
DOING!

IN PART. BUT
THE SHIPS ARE PREPPED
TO EVACUATE THE ISLAND.
WE NEED YOUR APES TO LEAD
THE PEOPLE THERE SAFELY.



"WE"?



EWATA...
I NEED
YOU.



THEY DO.
YOU SEEM
TO BE FINE
WITHOUT
ME.



HGRAAAAAA!

OH,
THANK
GOD!

TUNO!
TAKAN!
GET THESE
PEOPLE
TO THE
SHIPS!

VALLA
CAN HOLD
BACK THE
CRAZED ATU
KONG.

MOVE!
MOVE! SHE'S
ABOUT TO--!

--D'AAAH!

TPMWW

GRRRT!

NO!
AGANI?

GET
BACK--!



TAGU! ATU!
LISTEN TO
ME!

WE--YOUR
LEADERSHIP--HAVE
PREPARED FOR
THIS DISASTER!

DO NOT
RETURN TO THE
VILLAGES! THE
PATHS AROUND THE
GREAT MOUNTAIN
ARE NO LONGER
SAFE!



PLEASE--GO AS CALMLY
AND DIRECTLY AS YOU
CAN TO THE BAY OF
GREAT SHIPS!

CAPTAINS! CREW!
TAKE THE LEAD AND
COORDINATE
BOARDING!



DO NOT WORRY
OR DELAY ABOUT
HOW THE SHIPS
ARE ASSIGNED!

WE ARE
ALL SAILING
FOR A NEW
HOME AS
ONE!

WHATEVER
CONFLICTS THERE
HAVE BEEN BETWEEN
OUR BELIEFS--THEY ARE
BEHIND US NOW! WE CAN
ONLY SURVIVE THE
TERRORS OF THIS WORLD
WHEN WE STAND UNITED!



NOW GO--
TOGETHER--

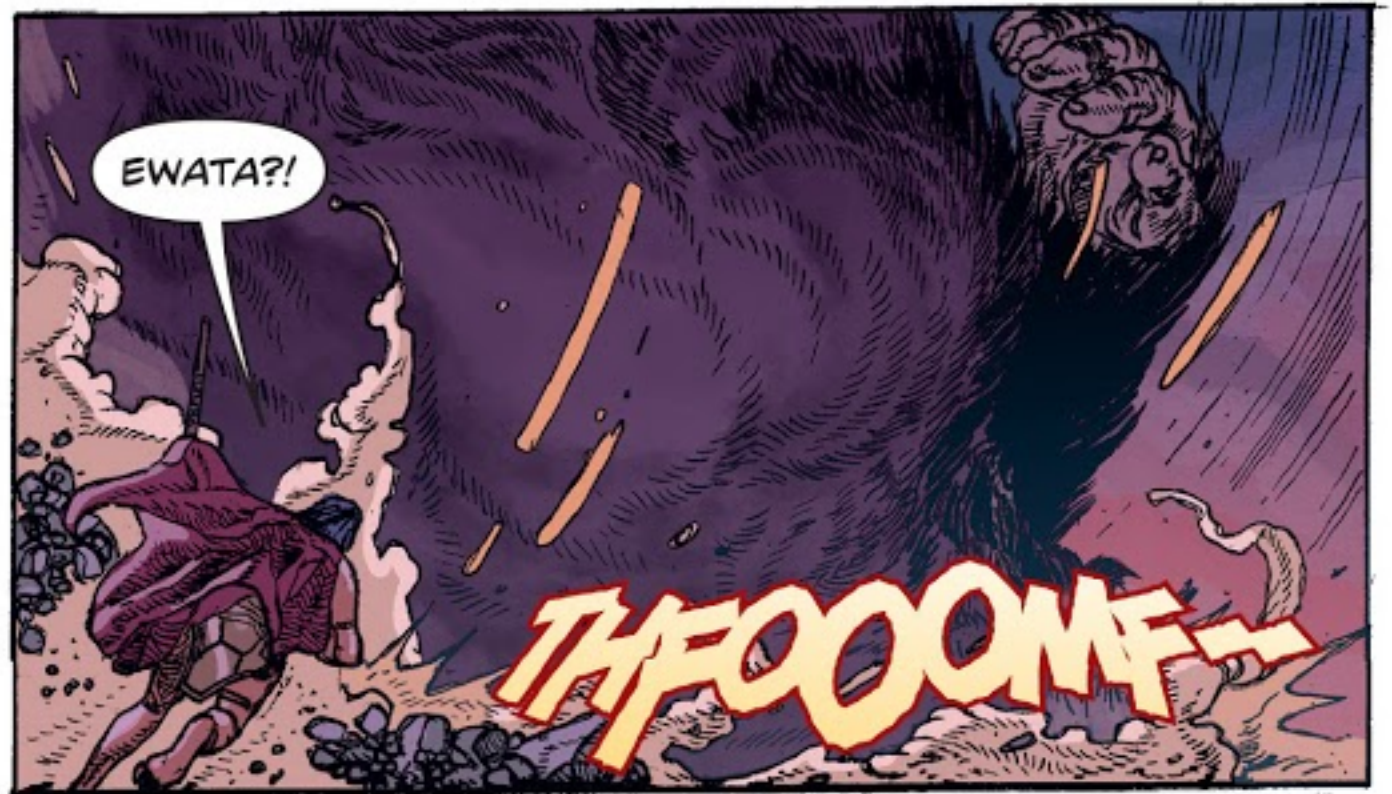
--AND HAVE
FAITH THE
BENEVOLENT
GODS WILL
DELIVER US
SAFELY!



THAT WAS
WONDERFUL!

HM.
YES,
BUT...

...WE
SHOULD
GO.







--I WILL
STAY WITH
YOU.

WHAT?!
FATHER,
NO--

OUR
PEOPLE
NEED
YOU!

THEY NEED THEIR
KING. AND NOW,
THAT IS YOU.



BUT
I WILL MAKE
ONE FINAL
DECISION AS
SOVEREIGN...

IT IS THE
WOUNDED WHO
SHALL WAIT FOR
A RETURN.

WE CAN
BETTER
TEND TO
THEIR
NEEDS
HERE.



NO! THE SUM
TOTAL OF YOU ALL
BARELY MATCH THE
WEIGHT OF ONE
KONG!

IF ANY LIFE STAYS,
IT SHOULD BE ONE
OF THE THEM!

YOUR
FATHER HAS
DECIDED,
K'RETI.

AND
WITH SO FEW
KONG, EACH
WILL BE VITALLY
NECESSARY IN
REBUILDING.
WHILE THE
SICK--



--NEED THEIR
SHAMAN.

EXCUSE
ME?!

YOUR PEOPLE
NEED YOUR
MEDICINES. YOUR
PRAYERS.

BESIDES--
YOUR GODS
PROTECT
YOU, YES?

THEN
THE BEST
CHANCE THESE
PEOPLE HAVE
IS IN YOUR
GRACE.



...OF
COURSE.

WHEN
YOU STATE
IT AS SUCH, I
DON'T SEE HOW
I COULD
REFUSE...

MY
ANNOUNCED
AND I WILL TEND
MATTERS HERE,
MY HEART. GO
TO SAFETY.



SAFETY?

THAT IS NOT AN OPTION.

A SHIP OF YOUR PEOPLE SET SAIL BEFORE WE HAD A CHANCE TO TELL THEM--

--UNTIL THE WINDS CHANGE-- THESE TIDES FLOW TO HELL ITSELF.

TO SKULL ISLAND!



WE SAILED FOR FEEDING GROUNDS--BUT WE FOUND MONSTERS.

THINGS CAME AT US FROM THE WATER, THE LAND--EVEN THE AIR!

NO...

THEY SLAUGHTERED US! I LOST A THIRD OF MY FRIENDS--

--AND WE HAD KONG TO FIGHT WITH US!



SO THOSE ATU BASTARDS WILL DIE!

JUSTICE FOR TAKING A HALF-EMPTY SHIP AND LEAVING US FOR DEAD!

IF WE KNOW WHAT'S OUT THERE, WHY NOT SIMPLY...DRIFT UNTIL A SEA CHANGE?



BECAUSE I WOULDN'T WISH THIS HORROR ON THE VILEST HUMAN ALIVE.



THE ONLY CHANCE THEY HAVE IS IF WE SAIL AFTER THEM.

AND KNOWING WHAT THOSE PEOPLE ARE ABOUT TO GO THROUGH--I COULDN'T LIVE WITH MYSELF IF I DIDN'T TRY TO SAVE THEM FROM IT.

SO ASK YOURSELVES THIS--



--WHAT KIND OF FUTURE DO WE HAVE, AS A PEOPLE, IF IT HAS TO BE BUILT ON A BRUTAL DISREGARD FOR OUR FELLOW MAN?

THIS WAS ALWAYS OUR SHIP. AND IT'S GOING TO SAVE AS MANY OF THOSE PEOPLE AS WE CAN.



WHETHER YOU JOIN US OR NOT IS UP TO YOU.

...BUT WE'RE TAKING THE KONG.



WE HAVE TO SAIL THE THIRD SHIP, THEN.

THERE ARE ENOUGH SUPPLIES TO WAIT OUT THE WINDS.



WE ALL SAIL TOGETHER.

THOSE ARE YOUR PEOPLE IN DANGER! WE WILL HAVE A FRACTIONAL, POISONED FUTURE IF WE DON'T HELP THEM.

IF WHAT SHE SAID IS TRUE--WE WILL HAVE NO FUTURE IF WE GO!

PLEASE, K'RETI--I AM YOUR WIFE. AND I BEG YOU--



EWATA IS MY WIFE.

THIS MARRIAGE IS A PEACE TREATY.



THE POOR SOULS ON THAT ISLAND--



--FLED FIRE AND DESTRUCTION TO FIND ONE THIRD OF THEIR CHANCES ALREADY DASHED.



THOUGH THE STORYTELLER IS TASKED WITH PRESENTING OUR HISTORY AS OTHERS SAW IT--

--I FEEL COMPELLED TO CONFESS THAT THE FINAL FATES OF MANY IN THESE HOURS WILL BE LOST TO TIME.



SMILE, CHILD! YOU SURVIVED.

WE EVEN PULLED THE STORYTELLER ON. INSURANCE AGAINST ANY WRATH-OF-GOD.



WHILE DEATH ITSELF MAY BE A CERTAINTY, THE FORM IT TAKES FOR EACH OF US IS UNIQUE, AND TRAGIC NONETHELESS.

LAND!
A NEW LAND
STRAIGHT DOWN
THE MOON'S
PATH!



LAND!
ALREADY?

GRAB YOUR
THINGS!

IF WE'RE
FIRST OFF
THE SHIP--WE
CAN CLAIM
THE BEST
PLOTS!

AND JUST AS
OUR CHOICES
IN LIFE CAN
DEFINE US--



--THE NATURE OF OUR DEATHS
OFTEN PROVIDES THE FINAL
RESULT OF THOSE CHOICES.

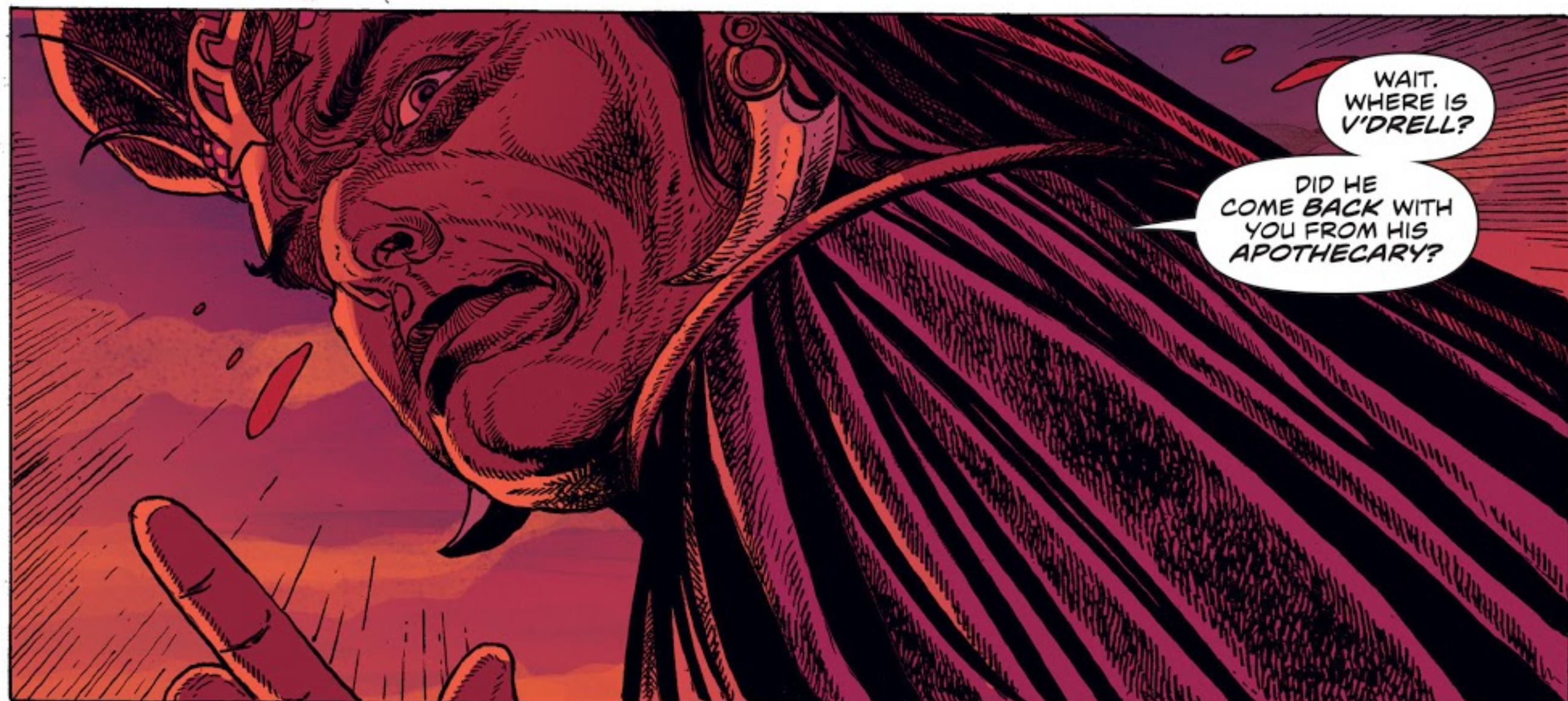


WHILE THE DEATHS OF OTHERS PROVIDE
LESSONS IN CONSEQUENCE.

ABLE TO
GATHER THE
MEDICINES?

AYE.

GOOD.
THE WORST
ARE--



WAIT.
WHERE IS
V'DRELL?

DID HE
COME BACK WITH
YOU FROM HIS
APOTHECARY?



THE
SHAMAN?
HE DIDN'T
TAKE US
THERE.

HE
REMEMBERED
HIS EQUIPMENT
HAD ALREADY
BEEN LOADED
ONTO ONE OF
THE SHIPS--



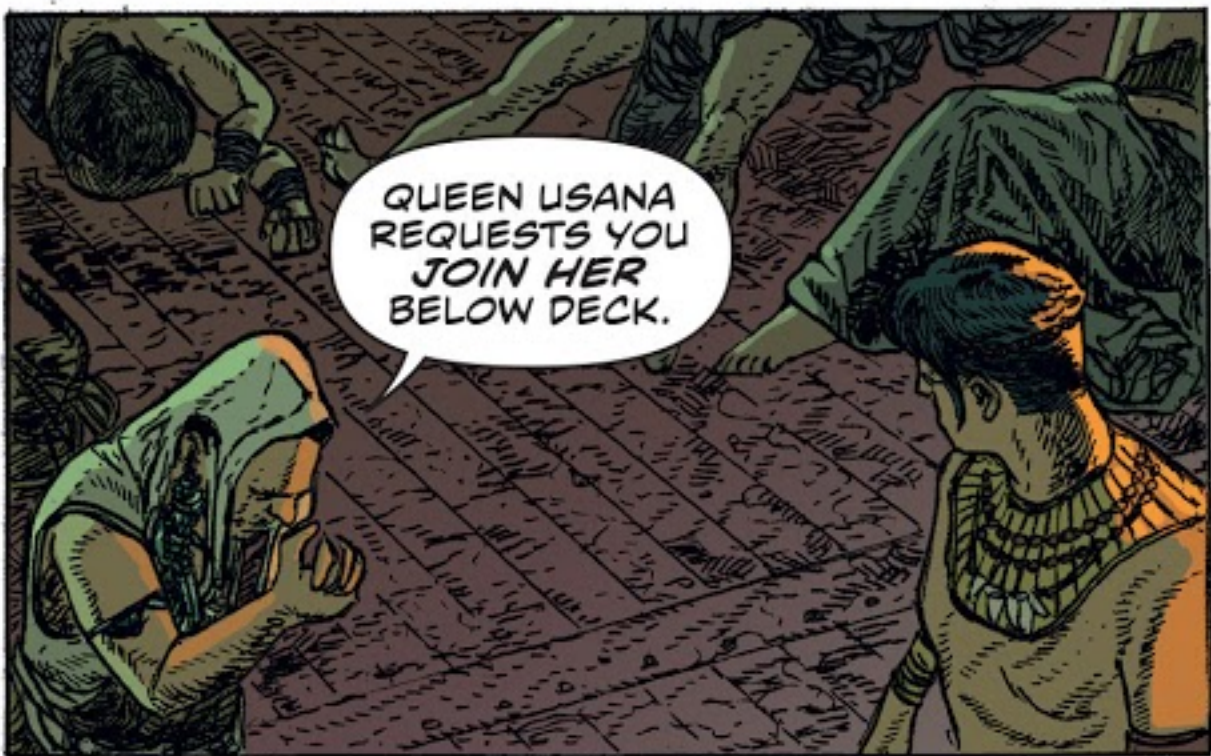
--AND HE
SENT YOU
BACK AHEAD
OF HIM?

GUTLESS
HYPOCRITE...

THE HIGH
SHAMAN IS OF
TRUE FAITH,
TAGU.

AND
SO ARE
WE.







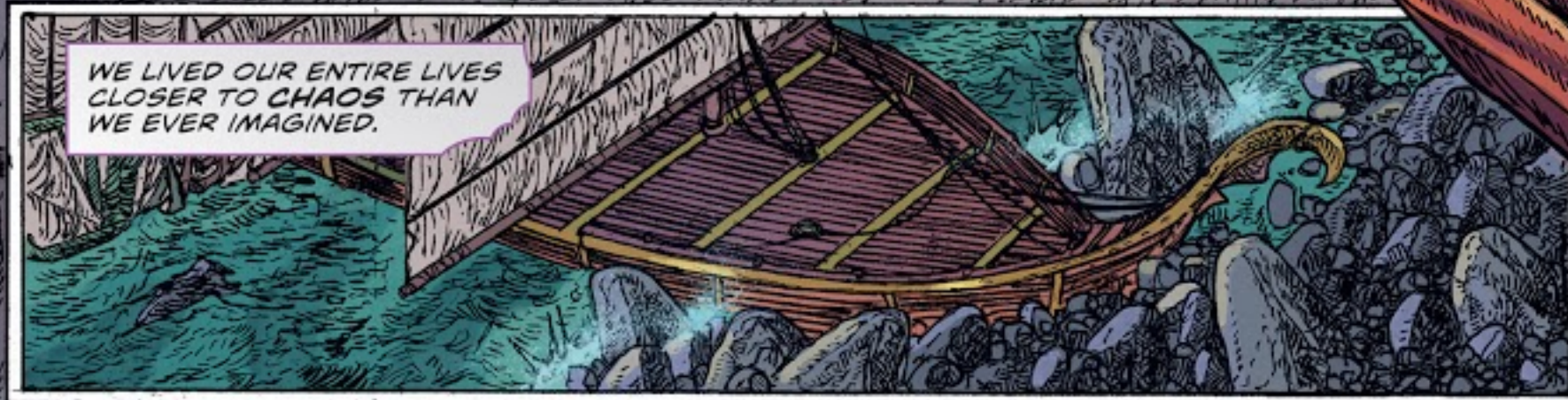
OUR PEOPLE NEED STRONG LEADERSHIP-- NOW MORE THAN EVER.

THE TAGU AND ATU WILL STAND AS ONE PEOPLE--

PRAISE THE GODS. GLORY TO THE NEW WORLD.







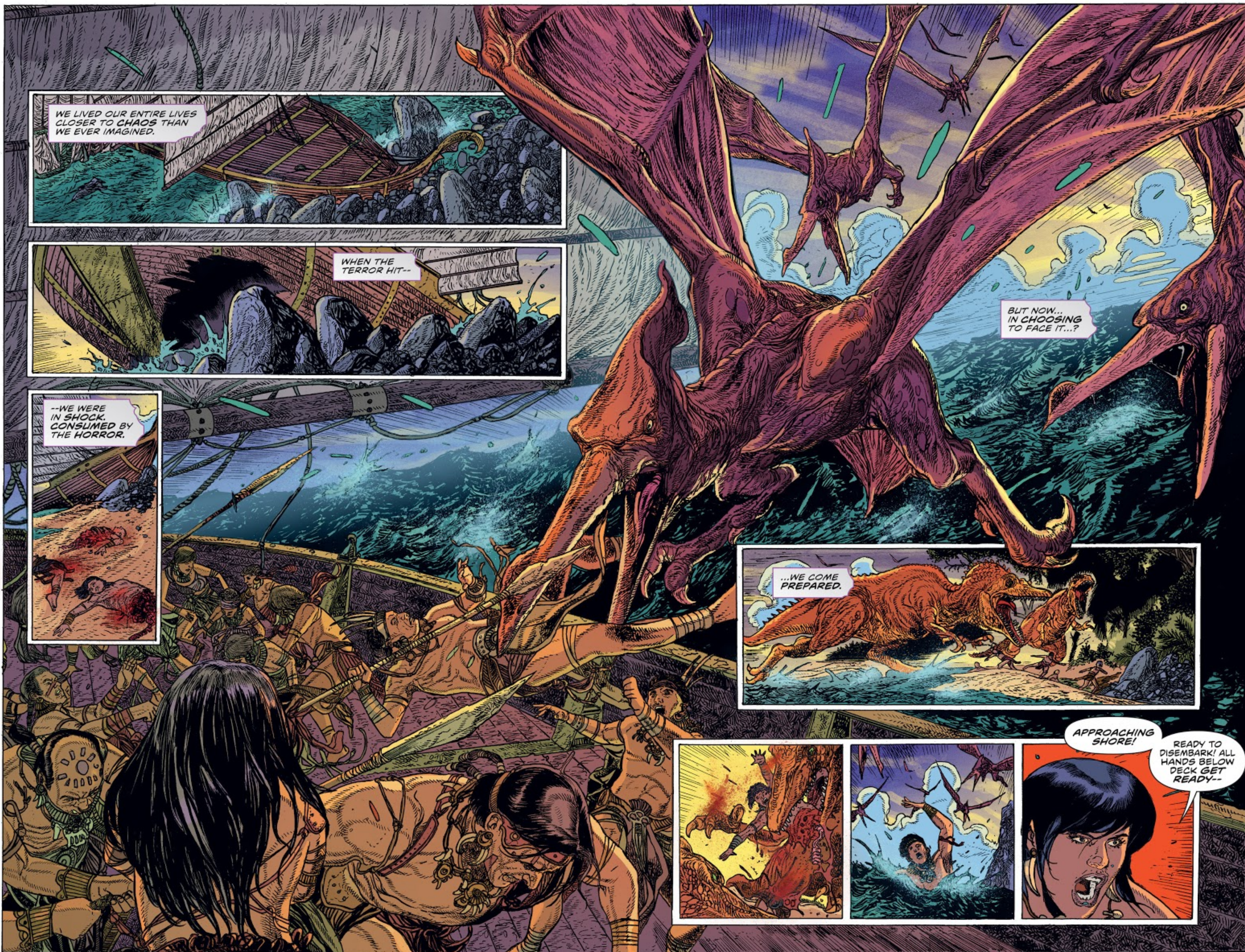
WE LIVED OUR ENTIRE LIVES
CLOSER TO CHAOS THAN
WE EVER IMAGINED.



WHEN THE
TERROR HIT--



--WE WERE
IN SHOCK.
CONSUMED BY
THE HORROR.



BUT NOW...
IN CHOOSING
TO FACE IT...?



...WE COME
PREPARED.



APPROACHING
SHORE!

READY TO
DISEMBARK! ALL
HANDS BELOW
DECK GET
READY--

"--FOR
WAR!"

TO BE CONTINUED...

KONG

OF SKULL ISLAND™

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
BRAD SIMPSON

NO. 4

BOOM!
STUDIOS



WE FLED A WORLD
OF FIRE--

--ONLY TO LAND ON AN
ISLE OF DEMONS.

DESPERATE TO ESCAPE OUR
CRUMBLING HOME, WE SAILED
BLINDLY INTO SAVAGE CHAOS--

--AND I FEAR IT WILL
PULL EVERY KIND SOUL
AMONG OUR BROTHERS
AND SISTERS ALONG IN
OUR WAKE.

THE ARCAINE ACCOUNTS
OF SKULL ISLAND
APPEAR TO BE TRUE.

I CAN ATTEST AS
EYE WITNESS THAT
CREATURES OF
PURE VIOLENCE
BURST FROM EVERY
BRUSH--AND
DESCEND FROM
EVERY CLOUD.

TUNO--?

--CRUSH.

I ONLY PRAY THAT I MAY
BE THE FINAL WITNESS
TO THIS HORROR.

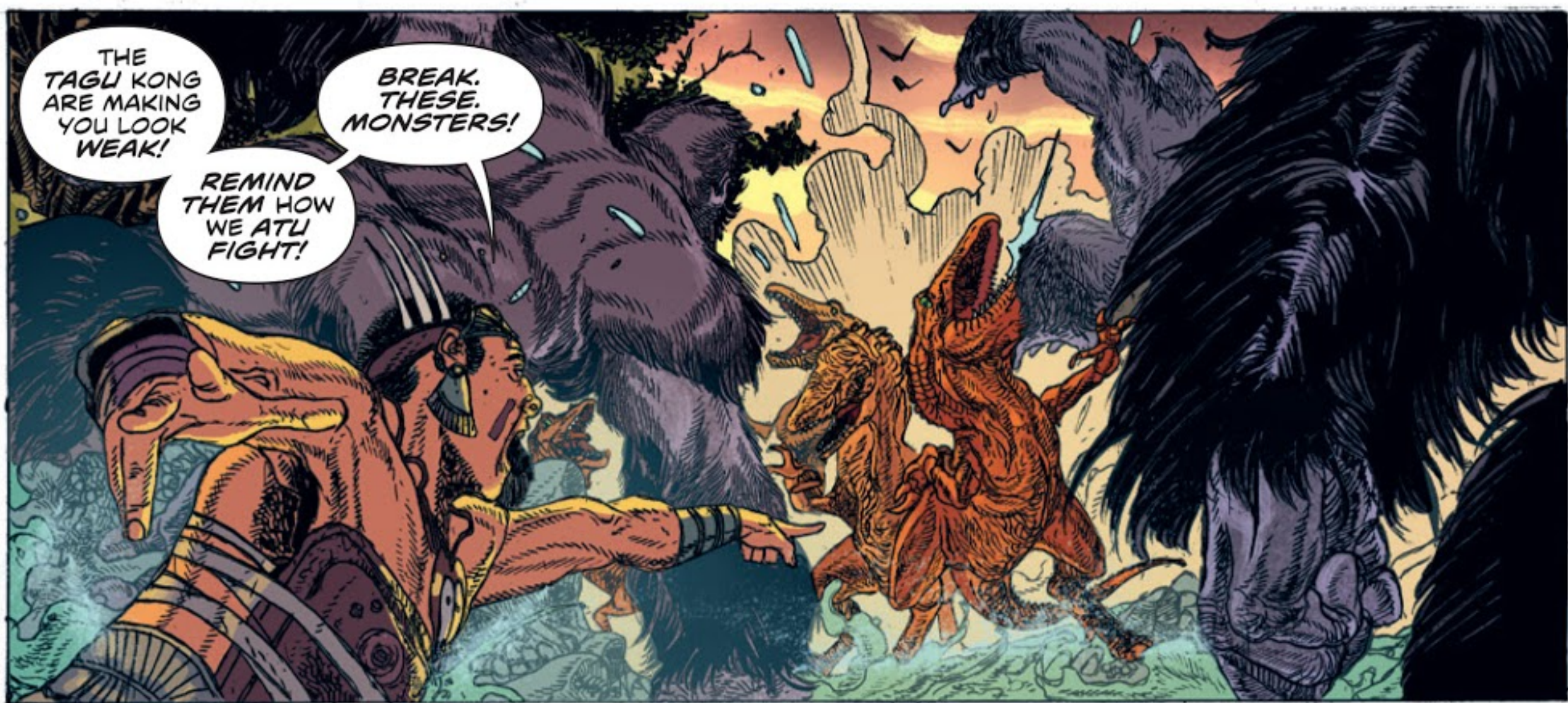
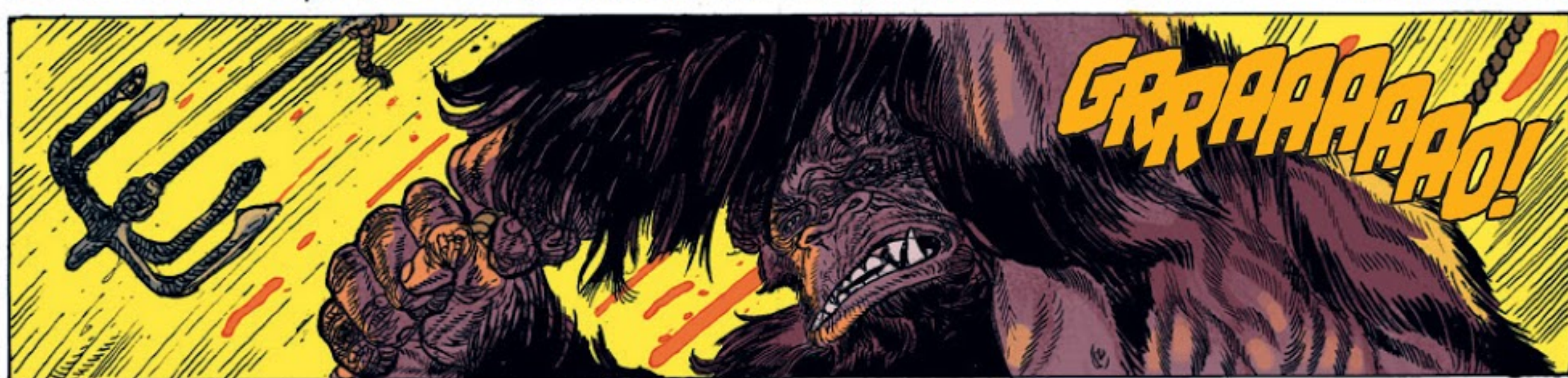
AND IF THESE JAWS OF
HELL CONSUME ME, MAY
MY BODY BE ENOUGH TO
END THEIR--

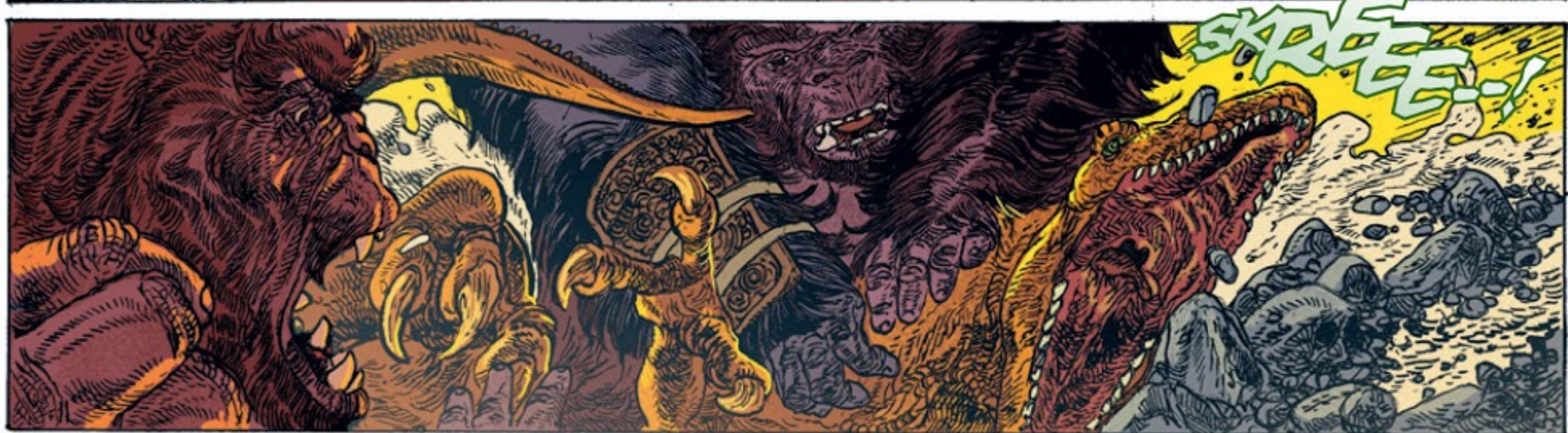
WHAT'S
THIS--?

COUSIN...?!

NO...
PLEASE,
NO...













THIS SHIP IS
WRECKED.

TAKE THE
LARGEST
SECTIONS
THAT WILL
HOLD--

--AND WALL
OFF THOSE
DEMONS BACK
INTO THE HELL
THEY CAME
FROM!



WE CAN'T
OUT-FIGHT
THESE THINGS
FOREVER--

--BUT WE CAN
OUT-THINK
THEM!



TREEEET?



CHRT-
HRNNN





THANK
THE
GODS!

BUT
HOW--?



IF YOU HAD
WAITED FOR THE
REST OF US--YOU
WOULD HAVE BEEN
WARNED WHERE
THESE WINDS WOULD
CARRY YOU.



BELIEVE
ME...I
REGRET MY
DECISION.



BUT AS A FATHER,
I TOOK THE CHANCE
I HAD TO INSURE
MY FAMILY.

THEY HAVE
SUFFERED
ENOUGH FOR
MY CHOICE.

I WILL TAKE
WHATEVER
PUNISHMENT IS
DESERVED FOR
TAKING A SELFISH
PATH.

HMM. THERE
MAY NOT BE
PUNISHMENT,
AS SUCH...

"...BUT THERE WILL CERTAINLY BE SACRIFICES TO BE MADE."

TELL ME, ATU...

...WHERE DO YOU ADD THESE MONSTERS TO YOUR INNUMERABLE GODS?

NOWHERE.

I WAS SIMPLY WONDERING IF THEY ARE SAFE TO EAT.

GAP SECURED!

GOOD. BUT HOLD YOUR BREATH.

GRET. GET YOUR KONG TO GATHER WATER AND DOUSE THE FIRE BEFORE IT REACHES THE WALL.

K'TAWN? YOU WORKED IN THE APOTHECARY?

YES-- DISCOVERIES AND MEDICINES.

CAN YOU MIX SOMETHING TO SEAL AND REINFORCE--

EWATA--?



COUSIN?!

OH
THANK
GOD,
SANI!

I
FOUND YOUR
RECORDS AND
THOUGHT
YOU...!



SO MANY PEOPLE
WE COULDN'T...
DIDN'T...

TRUST ME.
YOU WILL BE
REMEMBERED FOR
ALL OF US YOU
SAVED.



SNFF! WELL
ENOUGH!

WE
CAN'T LOSE
MOMENTUM.
KEEP BREAKING
THE SHIP.

ONCE THE
BARRIER IS
SECURE--SWITCH
TO MAKING THE
FIRST SHELTER.



RAID PARTY!
KEEP YOUR
ARMOR UP!

SCOUT THE CLIFFS AND
BEYOND THE ROCKS!
FIND OUR EXPOSURES
BEFORE THESE
MONSTERS DO!



ORDERS,
YOUR MAJESTY?

CIRCLE THE
ISLAND UNTIL THE
SHORE IS FULLY
SECURED.

I WON'T
RISK MORE
OF MY
PEOPLE.



HERE. RELAX.
WE WILL HAVE
SHELTER AND
BEDDING
TOGETHER
SOON.



WHAT?
W-WE CAN'T
STAY HERE!
WHY DON'T
WE SAIL
BACK--



I UNDERSTAND YOU MUST
BE DESPERATE TO GET
OFF THIS ISLAND. BUT WE
MUST STAY AT LEAST A
LITTLE LONGER.

NO-
NO-NO...

WE HAVE
ANOTHER
SHIP! WHY
WAIT?!



AS I UNDERSTAND
IT? THE SEAS, AS
THEY ARE, WOULD
CARRY US INTO
UNKNOWN
TERRITORY.

EWATA OF THE TAGU
KNOWS WHAT WE
ARE FACING HERE.
AND SHE HAS
SECURED US FOR
THE MOMENT.

WE WAIT TO
BE REUNITED WITH
THE REST OF OUR
PEOPLE. THE TAGU
AND ATU HAVE ALWAYS
BEEN STRONGEST
STANDING
TOGETHER.



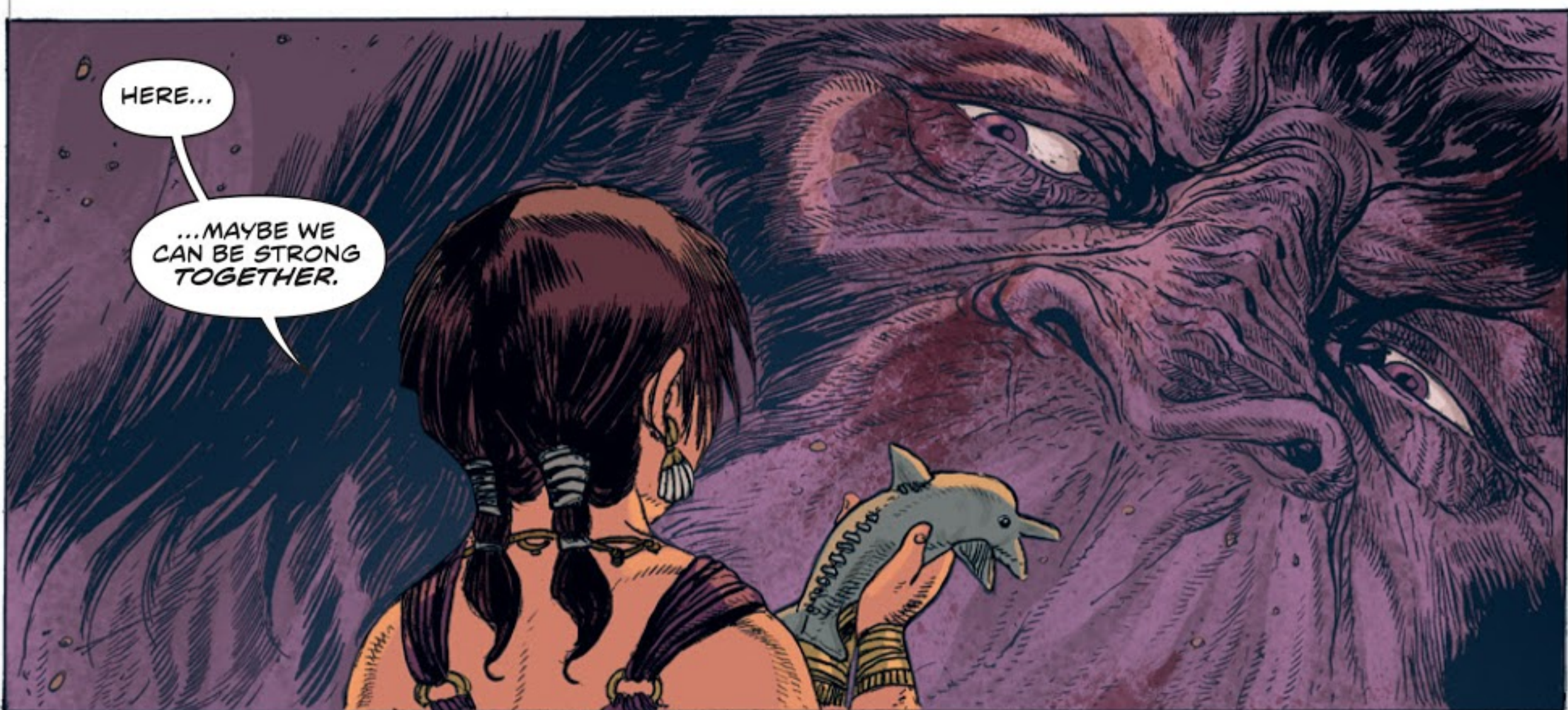
STORYTELLER...?

A MAN
SAID THE
GODS ARE
PUNISHING
US. IS THAT
TRUE?

OH, DARLING
HEART--I HAVE
ALL FAITH THAT
NO GOD COULD
HOLD SPITE FOR A
SOUL SUCH AS
YOURS.



BUT I BELIEVE
THAT--SOMETIMES--
THE GODS TEST US
SO THAT WE MAY
LEARN HOW
STRONG WE CAN
TRULY BECOME.





YOU DIDN'T
SEE THE **END**,
DID YOU?

NO.

THE LOOK IN
HER EYES...
TRULY, I
SWEAR B'LAN
KNEW--



--SHE SACRIFICED
HERSELF TO SAVE
THE OTHER KONG.
TO SAVE ALL OF
US.



I DOUBT MY
FRIENDS WOULD
SACRIFICE
THEMSELVES LIKE
THAT.

THE DIVIDE
BETWEEN MAN
AND ANIMAL IS
THINNER THAN
WE CARE TO
IMAGINE...

AND IT
SOUNDS AS
IF YOU NEED
BETTER
FRIENDS.



MBETI! GRET.
I NEED YOU TO
KEEP EVERYONE
ON TASK ONCE
WE GO.

WAIT--EWATA!--
K'RETI'S SHIP IS
ABOUT TO LAND.
DON'T YOU WANT
TO WAIT TO--?



SOMEONE
NEEDS TO SAIL BACK
FOR THE WOUNDED.
AND KING K'RETI
HAS PROVEN
HIMSELF A COWARD
MORE THAN ONCE
TODAY.

AFTER
SEEING THEIR
SHIP STAY
BACK AS WE
FOUGHT--



"--I DOUBT OUR NEW KING AND QUEEN CAN BE TRUSTED TO PROTECT OUR FRIENDS ON EITHER ISLAND."



EWATA? NOW THAT THEY CLEARED THE COVE, WE CAN SAIL. UNLESS...?

OH--I WILL GLADLY MISS ANY POMP AND SPEECHIFYING ABOUT TO--



TAGU PEOPLE! ATU PEOPLE! MY PEOPLE...

...WITH THE HEAVIEST OF HEARTS, AND THE FULL BURDEN OF BEING YOUR NEW QUEEN I MUST DELIVER TRAGIC NEWS.

JUST AS OUR SHIP CRESTED THE HORIZON AWAY FROM OUR HOME...THE NAVIGATORS WITNESSED THE TOTAL COLLAPSE OF OUR SACRED ISLE.

THE ERUPTIONS MUST HAVE BEEN TOO MUCH. THEY WITNESSED OUR MOTHERLAND CRUMBLING INTO THE SEA--



--AND, UNDOUBTEDLY, TAKING YOUR FORMER KING, SO MANY OF OUR LOVED ONES, AND MY OWN FATHER WITH IT.

NO... NO. IF WE SAIL NOW, SURVIVORS COULD STILL HAVE SWAM--

EWATA. WE KNEW IT WAS A RISK...

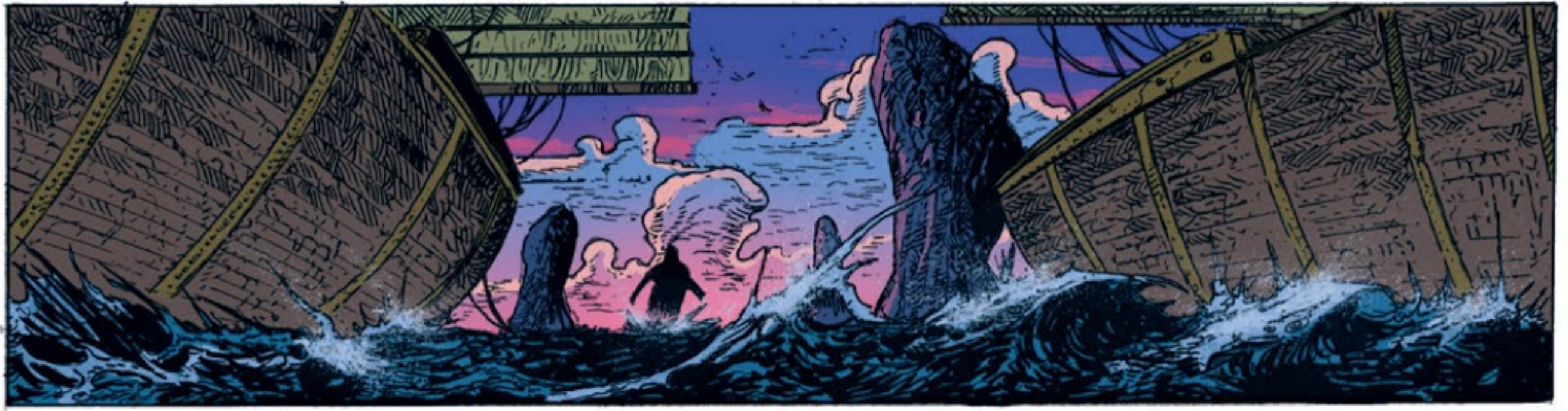
BUT I AM AFRAID TO SAY... THAT WAS NOT THE LAST TRAGIC LOSS WE HAVE SUFFERED...





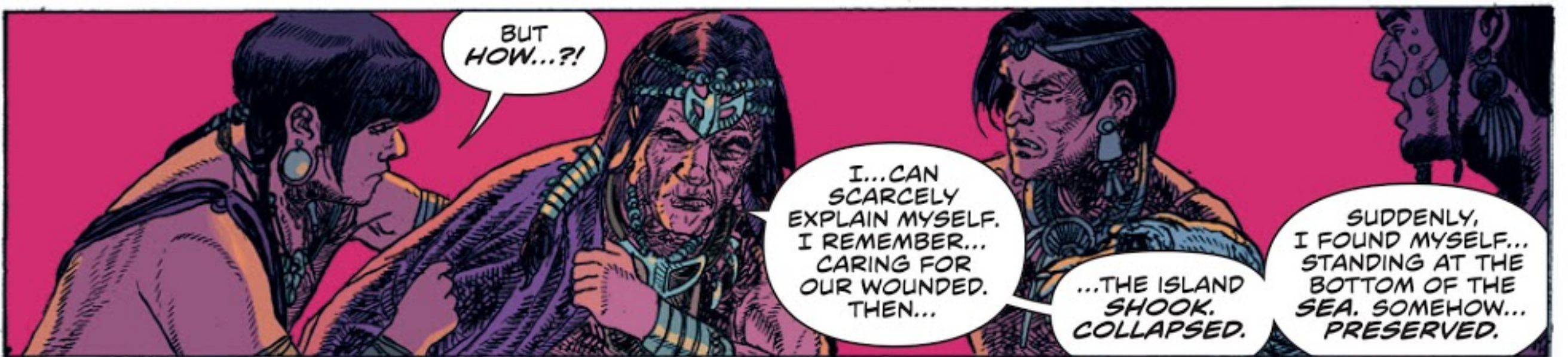






PRECIOUS GODS...A MIRACLE!

VDRELL! BROTHERS AND SISTERS! THE GODS HAVE RETURNED OUR SHAMAN TO US!!



BUT HOW...?!

I...CAN SCARCELY EXPLAIN MYSELF. I REMEMBER... CARING FOR OUR WOUNDED. THEN...

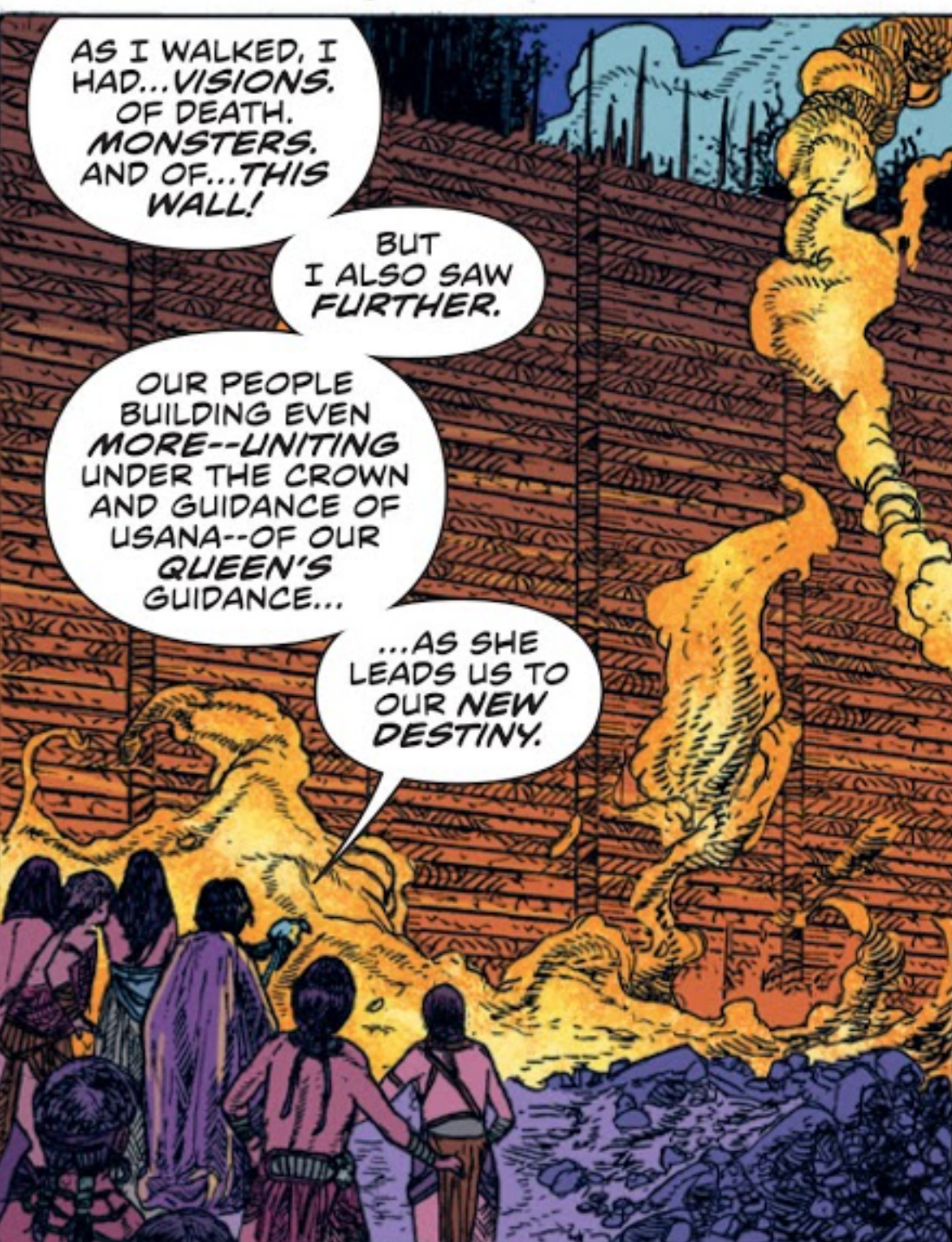
...THE ISLAND SHOOK. COLLAPSED.

SUDDENLY, I FOUND MYSELF... STANDING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA. SOMEHOW... PRESERVED.



SO I SIMPLY BEGAN TO WALK.

A MIRACLE! PROOF OF YOUR CONNECTION TO THE GODS!



AS I WALKED, I HAD...VISIONS. OF DEATH. MONSTERS. AND OF...THIS WALL!

BUT I ALSO SAW FURTHER.

OUR PEOPLE BUILDING EVEN MORE--UNITING UNDER THE CROWN AND GUIDANCE OF USANA--OF OUR QUEEN'S GUIDANCE...

...AS SHE LEADS US TO OUR NEW DESTINY.



AFTER THE MIRACLE OF MY SURVIVAL--I CANNOT DOUBT IT...

THE GODS HAVE BROUGHT US HERE.

AND NOT TO COWER ON THE BEACHES...



BUT
TO HOLD
DOMINION
OVER IT
ALL!

WE
WILL VENTURE--
MAN AND KONG
ALIKE--INTO THE
BLACK HEART OF
THIS ISLAND!

AND WE WILL
CONQUER AND
CLAIM THE
SUMMIT AT ITS
CENTER!

AND WE
WILL SLAUGHTER
AND HEEL WHATEVER
DEVILS WE MUST IN
ORDER TO CLAIM THIS
LAND FOR OURSELVES--
AND FOR THE GLORY
OF THE GODS!

TO BE CONTINUED...


KONG

OF SKULL ISLAND™


JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
BRAD SIMPSON

NO. 5
BOOM!
STUDIOS






WHAT REMAINS OF THE
TAGU-ATU PEOPLE HAVE
SURVIVED FIVE DAYS ON THE
SHORE OF SKULL ISLAND--




--BUT EACH DAY GIVES
THE SENSATION OF A
LIFETIME IN HELL.

MOMMY?!
WHERE
DID YOU
GOOO?



SOME AMONG US
HAVE BEEN UNABLE
TO SLEEP A SINGLE
MOMENT SINCE
ARRIVING--

--IN CONSTANT DREAD OF
THE BEASTS, OF ANOTHER
ERUPTION, OR OF
SLEEPING THROUGH AN
EVACUATION.



THOSE DRIVEN
TO ANGER
TURN TO THE
SHAMAN AND
HIS CALL TO
RECLAIM A
HOME.

FROM OUTSIDE,
IT SEEMS HE ONLY
RALLIES THEIR
FURY. YET EVERY
DAY IT SEEMS
MORE TAGU
JOIN THE ATU IN HIS
FLOCK.



BUT WHILE OUR PEOPLE ARE
UNITING--WE ARE RAPIDLY
LOSING OUR KONG.

SENT TO PULL MATERIALS
FOR SHELTER, FOOD, AND
DEFENSES FROM DEEPER AND
DEEPER IN THE ISLAND, OUR
KONG RETURN SAVAGED AND--

--SOME NEVER
COME BACK
AT ALL.



OUR LIVES
ARE NO
LONGER
WHAT THEY
WERE.



BUT WE DO NOT
YET KNOW WHAT
NEW PARADIGM
AWAITS...



--SACRIFICE! WHEN
WE OFFER UP ALL WE
CAN, THE GODS RAIN
DOWN UPON US
EVERYTHING WE
HAVE EARNED!



EWATA...

HOW ARE YOU FAIRING,
COUSIN?

BADLY.

I VOWED
TO UNRAVEL
THE TRUTH OF
YOUR BELOVED
K'RETI'S
MURDER.

BUT I HAVE
RECORDED THE
FULL ACCOUNTING
OF EVERY WOMAN,
CHILD, AND MAN ON
THIS ISLAND. NOT
A SOUL HERE
WITNESSED HIS
END.



I AM GRATEFUL
YOU HAVE TRIED,
SANI. BUT
TRUTHFULLY...

I
FEAR MORE
FOR MY OWN
LIFE AT THE
MOMENT.

ARE YOU IN
DANGER?

I EXPECT
I WILL BE,
AFTER
THIS--

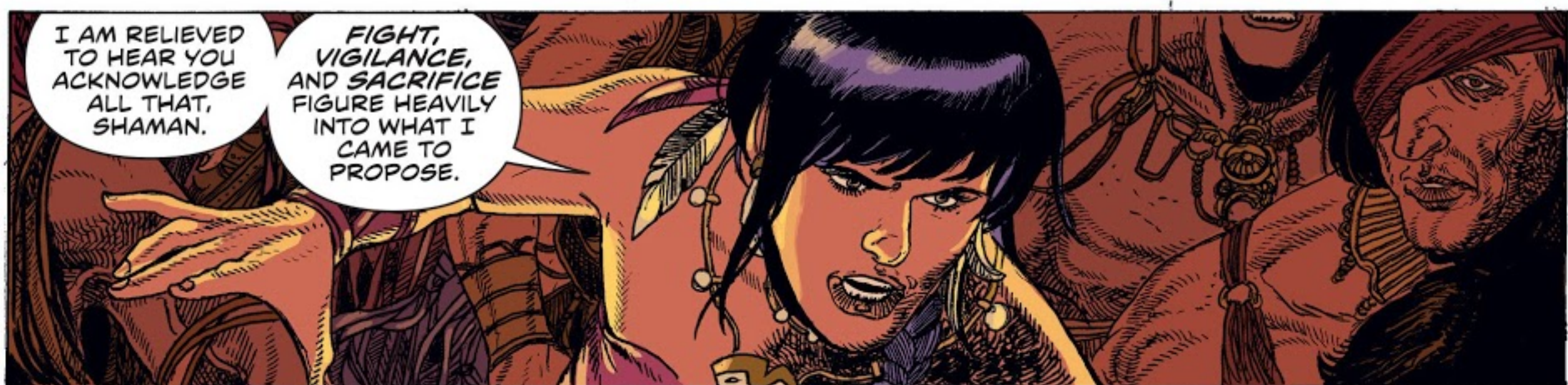


IN DELIVERING US
HERE, THE GODS
HAVE ISSUED TO US
A CHALLENGE!

IN BESETTING
US WITH DEMONS,
THE GODS DEMAND
WE FIGHT FOR OUR
EXISTENCE!

IN ALLOWING THESE
MONSTERS TO **STEAL**
OFF WITH WOMEN AND
CHILDREN IN THE NIGHT,
THE GODS TEACH US TO
BE EVER-VIGILANT!

IN **BURNING** OUR
HOME TO SEND US
HERE, THE GODS
DEMONSTRATE THEY
DEMAND **SACRIFICE**
IN THEIR NAME!



I AM RELIEVED
TO HEAR YOU
ACKNOWLEDGE
ALL THAT,
SHAMAN.

**FIGHT,
VIGILANCE,
AND SACRIFICE**
FIGURE HEAVILY
INTO WHAT I
CAME TO
PROPOSE.



AS CHIEF ADVISOR
TO THE **QUEEN**, I
WOULD BE HAPPY TO
DISCUSS POLITICAL
MATTERS **AFTER**
OUR RITES--

BUT YOU JUST SAID,
YOURSELF--THE GODS
DEMAND ACTION! OUR
SURVIVAL IS THE
HIGHEST TESTAMENT
TO OUR FAITH!

AND IN WORKING
WITH OUR KONG TO
SECURE THE FAR SIDE
OF THE WALL THIS
MORNING...VALLA
FOUND A **TRAIL**.

BLOOD.
FROM ONE OF
YOUR **DEVOTED**.
SLAUGHTERED AND
STOLEN BY THE
DEMONS YOU
RANT AGAINST.



AND FOR THE **FIRST TIME**...WE
CAN TRACK THIS MONSTER BACK
TO ITS LAIR. WITH OUR **KONG** AND
YOUR **BLESSED GUIDANCE**--WE
CAN FINALLY, FULLY RISE TO MEET
THIS **CHALLENGE** THE GODS
HAVE ISSUED US!



YOU DON'T
BELIEVE **ONE**
WORD OF
THAT.

I BELIEVE
WE NEED TO
STOP OUR
PEOPLE FROM
BEING TAKEN IN
THE NIGHT.

AND I
BELIEVE MY
FRIENDS WILL HAVE
EVERY RESOURCE
AND CHANCE OF
SURVIVAL IF **YOU** AND
YOUR DAUGHTER ARE
MADE TO VENTURE
WITH US.



IS IT TOO LATE TO SUGGEST A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT STRATEGY?

PERHAPS ONE THAT INVOLVES LIVING TO SEE TOMORROW?

HUSH, MBETI.

EWATA? WE FOLLOW YOUR LEAD.

APPRECIATED, BUT AS KEEPERS OF ROYAL KONG-- WE STILL TAKE ORDERS FROM THE CROWN. SO, YOUR REGENCY...?



I FEIGN NO EXPERTISE IN BEASTS. WE COMMUNE WITH THE GODS.

AND AS THEY ANNOINTED THE ATU KONG WITH VICTORIES AGAINST YOURS--

CLEARLY GRET HAS EARNED THE RIGHT TO TAKE COMMAND.

WITH ALL RESPECT, YOUR REGENCY...

EWATA KNOWS HER KONG. WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER.



OR NONE OF US HAVE A HOPE AGAINST THAT.



THEY CAN'T OUT-SAVAGE THE BIG ONE. WE NEED STRATEGY--

AGREED.

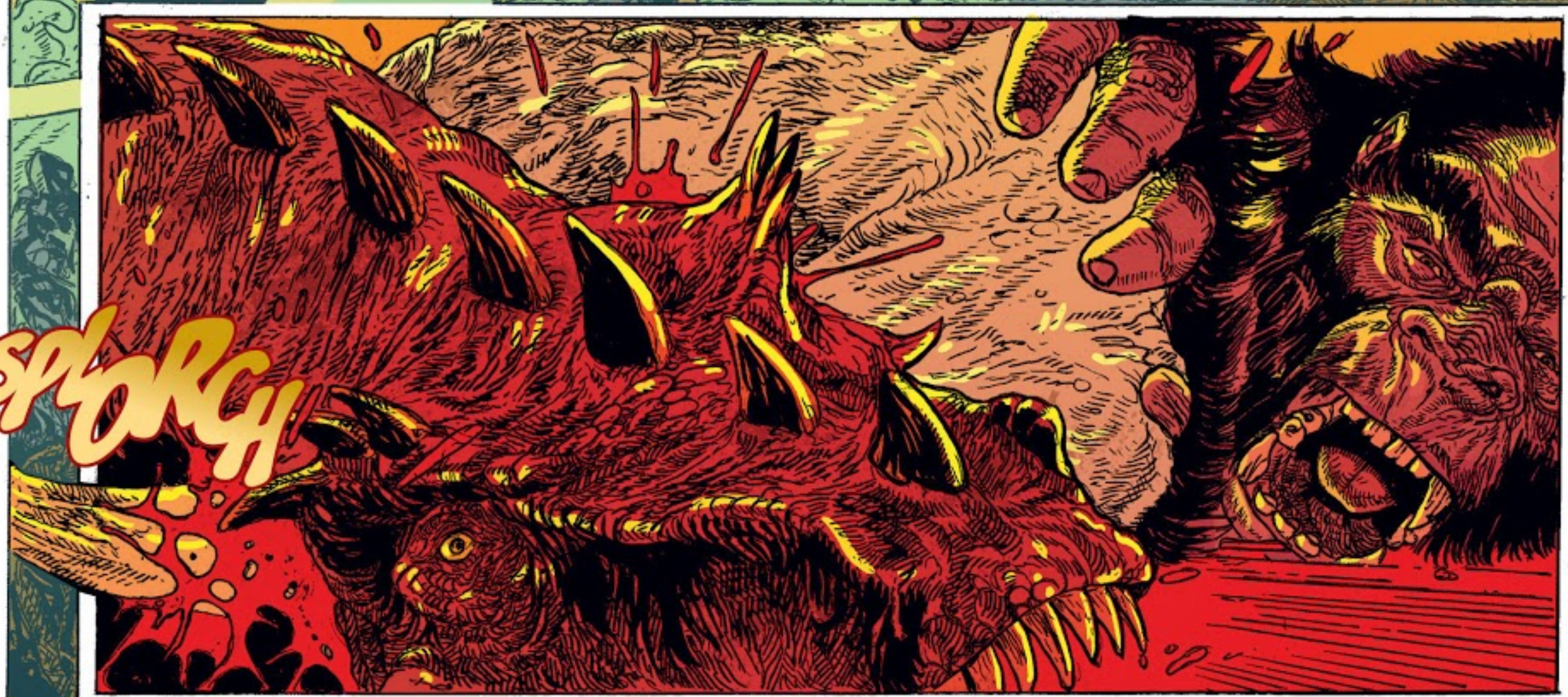
AND I THINK I MIGHT SEE ONE.



EWATA? WHAT ARE YOU--?!



VALLA! COME! WE CAN END THIS--





HMPF

GOOD
GIRL, VALLA.
VERY GOOD
GIRL.



NO, NO.
UP! GET
YOUR BEAST
ON ITS
FEET!

WE
HAVE MANY
LENGTHS
STILL TO
GO!

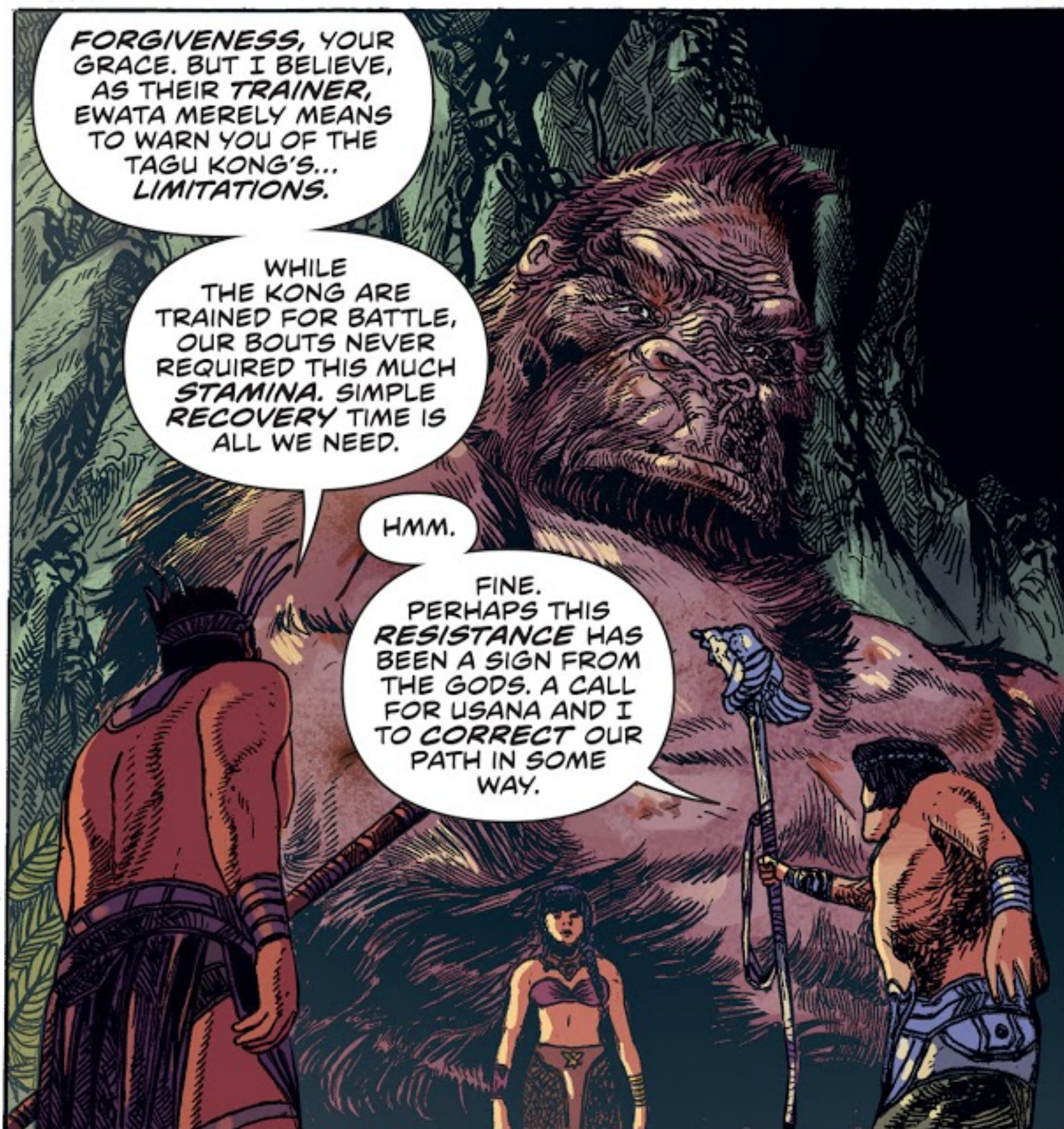


NO.

MONSTERS
LEAP OUT AT
EVERY SINGLE
TURN.

OUR KONG
HAVE BEEN
GETTING MORE
EXHAUSTED AS
THESE DEMONS
ONLY GET
BIGGER AND
BIGGER!

WATCH
YOUR TONE,
GIRL. YOU
FORGET THE
NEW
ORDER--



FORGIVENESS, YOUR
GRACE. BUT I BELIEVE,
AS THEIR TRAINER,
EWATA MERELY MEANS
TO WARN YOU OF THE
TAGU KONG'S...
LIMITATIONS.

WHILE
THE KONG ARE
TRAINED FOR BATTLE,
OUR BOUTS NEVER
REQUIRED THIS MUCH
STAMINA. SIMPLE
RECOVERY TIME IS
ALL WE NEED.

HMM.

FINE.
PERHAPS THIS
RESISTANCE HAS
BEEN A SIGN FROM
THE GODS. A CALL
FOR USANA AND I
TO CORRECT OUR
PATH IN SOME
WAY.



YOU HAVE UNTIL
THE END OF MY
PRAYERS AND
OFFERINGS.

DO MY SENSES
DECIEVE ME?! OR
DID GRET TRULY
RISK HIS SHAMAN'S
IRE TO STAND
WITH A TAGU?

AHH...
YOU SAID IT
YOURSELF,
MBETI--

--I NEED TO
MAKE BETTER
FRIENDS.

THE
ONLY WAY TAGU
OR ATU SURVIVE
THIS HELL--



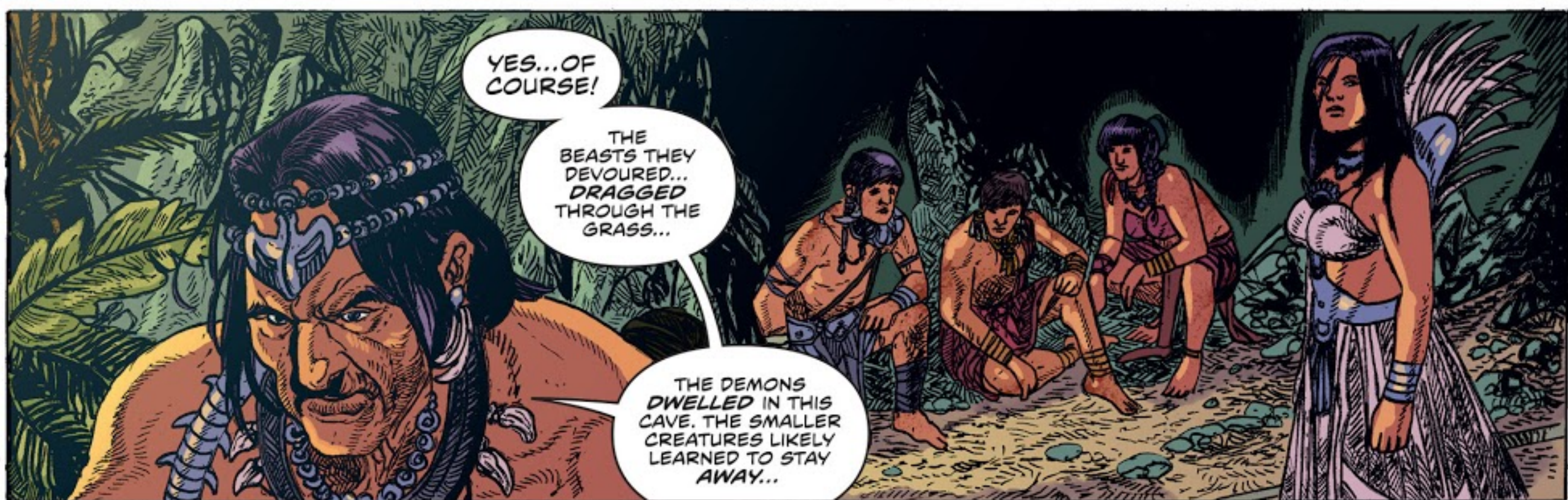
"--IS IF WE START
LOOKING OUT FOR
EACH OTHER."

NO
SIGN OF OUR
TAKEN PEOPLE.
THESE WERE NOT
THE MONSTERS
WE CAME
FOR.



TUNO?
THERE'S BEEN
NO SIGN OF MORE
CREATURES.

BUT WE
BROUGHT
FOOD. COME
EAT.



YES...OF
COURSE!

THE
BEASTS THEY
DEVoured...
DRAgGED
THROUGH THE
GRASS...

THE DEMONS
DWELLED IN THIS
CAVE. THE SMALLER
CREATURES LIKELY
LEARNED TO STAY
AWAY...



K'TAWN!

DID YOU BRING
APOTHECARY
TOOLS?



OF
COURSE.

AS I WOULD
WAGER THE **SCENTS**
ASSOCIATED WITH
THESE **LARGER** DEVILS
MAY BE THE TRICK TO
WARDING OFF THE
SMALLER ONES.



AYE. DO NOT
LEAN TOO
HEAVILY ON THE
FLOWERS.

THEY MAY BE
CONCENTRATED
IN THIS AREA, BUT
THE PHEROMONES
OF THE GIANT
ITSELF ARE MORE
DEFINITELY--

EWATA--
COULD WE
SHARE A
WORD?



BUT I CAN ONLY
KEEP THINKING OF
REASONS YOU
DESERVE TO
HEAR IT.

PRINCE
K'RETI...

...LOVED YOU.
UNQUESTIONINGLY.
AND TO THE VERY
END.

HE
MADE THAT
EXPLICITLY
CLEAR TO
ME.

THAT OURS WAS ONLY TO BE
A MARRIAGE OF POLITICAL
EXPEDIENCE.

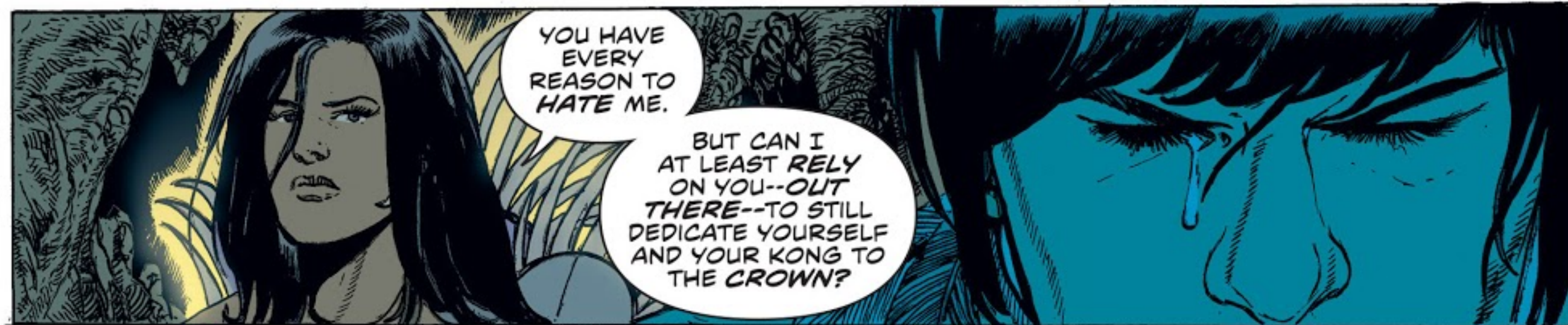
HE BELIEVED,
LIKE HIS FATHER,
THAT OUR PEOPLE
NEEDED A SINGLE,
UNIFIED VOICE OF
LEADERSHIP TO
GUIDE THEM
THROUGH

THERE
ARE, NO DOUBT,
NUMEROUS
POLITICAL
REASONS I
SHOULD NOT
SAY THIS.



YOU HAVE
EVERY
REASON TO
HATE ME.

BUT CAN I
AT LEAST RELY
ON YOU--OUT
THERE--TO STILL
DEDICATE YOURSELF
AND YOUR KONG TO
THE CROWN?





NO.

EH--
EXCUSE
ME?!



I WAS
NEVER
LOYAL
TO THE
CROWN.

MY LOYALTY
IS TO GOOD
PEOPLE.

EWATA?!
WAIT!
WHAT ARE
YOU--



THERE HAS
BEEN ENOUGH
UPHEAVAL.

AND MORE
THAN ENOUGH
BLOODSHED.

THINK



FOR THE
GOOD OF ALL OUR
PEOPLE, I AM DOING
MY PART TO SECURE
THIS NEW HOME FOR
THE TAGU-ATU.

ONCE
THINGS ARE
SAFE...?



...THEN YOU
AND I CAN
DISCUSS THE
PRICE OF
LOYALTY.



WE PREPARED VARYING MIXTURES. WE PRAY EACH IS EFFECTIVE.

BUT STAY ALERT FOR THE DEMONS' COMINGS AND GOINGS.

HOW CAN THE KONG TRACK THESE MONSTERS COVERED IN STENCH?

WE HAVE BRED THEM AS TRACKERS. BE GLAD TAGU KONG HAVE HAD TO HUNT FOR THEIR FOOD.



OF COURSE, I PREPARED FOR US A BLEND OF ALL THE ELEMENTS.

THE ROYAL FAMILY SHOULD BE PROTECTED ABOVE ALL.

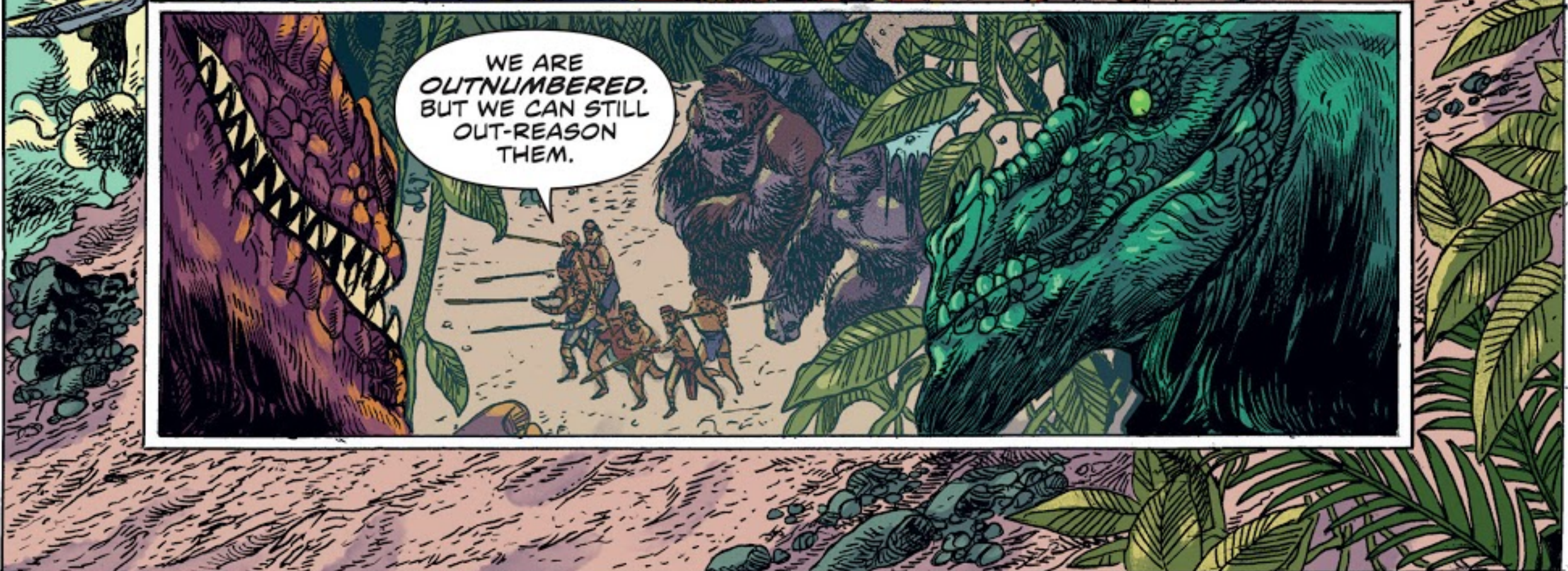


WE CONTINUE FORWARD IN BROAD FORMATION. ANCHORED ON ALL CORNERS BY THE KONG.

IF WE ARE TO SURVIVE THIS EXCURSION--WE CANNOT RISK SEVERAL BODIES FALLING PREY TO A SINGLE, SUDDEN ATTACK.

BUT THAT ALSO OFFERS A CHANCE TO EXPERIMENT.

KEEPING DISTANCE BETWEEN EACH OTHER WILL BETTER GAUGE WHICH--IF ANY--PHEROMONE BLEND CAN SERVE AS OUR BEST PROTECTION GOING FORWARD.



WE ARE OUTNUMBERED. BUT WE CAN STILL OUT-REASON THEM.



TSST--
GALANA--?

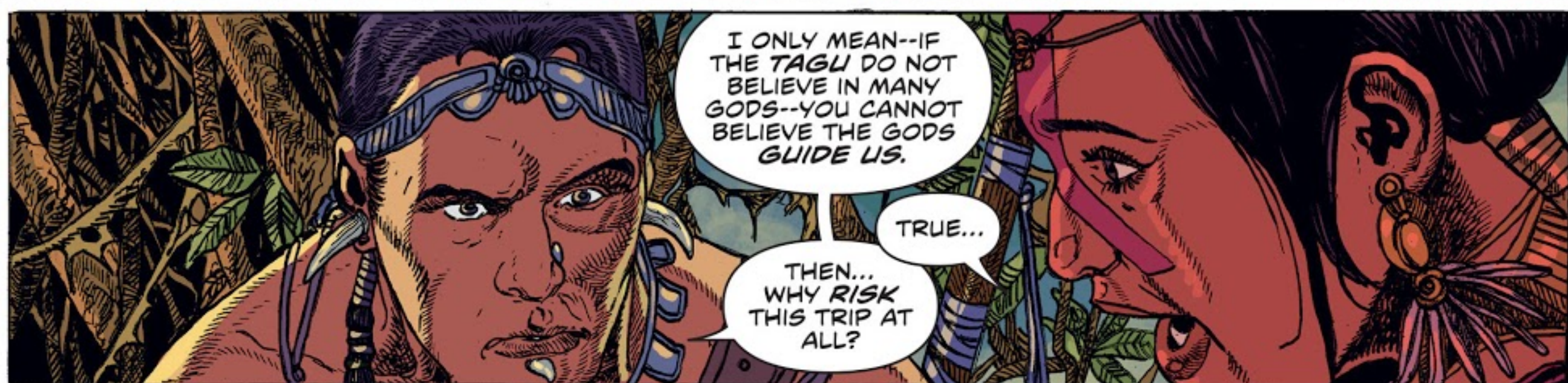
EH? MM...
BOLTI, WAS IT?
I THOUGHT WE
ARE SUPPOSED
TO KEEP
SEPARATE?

TRUE. BUT
I...HAVE TO
ASK...



WHY
DID YOU
COME?

MY BROTHERS
AND I, WE OBEY
THE SHAMAN.
AND OUR FAITH
REQUIRES...



I ONLY MEAN--IF
THE TAGU DO NOT
BELIEVE IN MANY
GODS--YOU CANNOT
BELIEVE THE GODS
GUIDE US.

TRUE...

THEN...
WHY RISK
THIS TRIP AT
ALL?



BECAUSE
WE HAVE TO
UNDERSTAND
WHAT WE ARE UP
AGAINST.

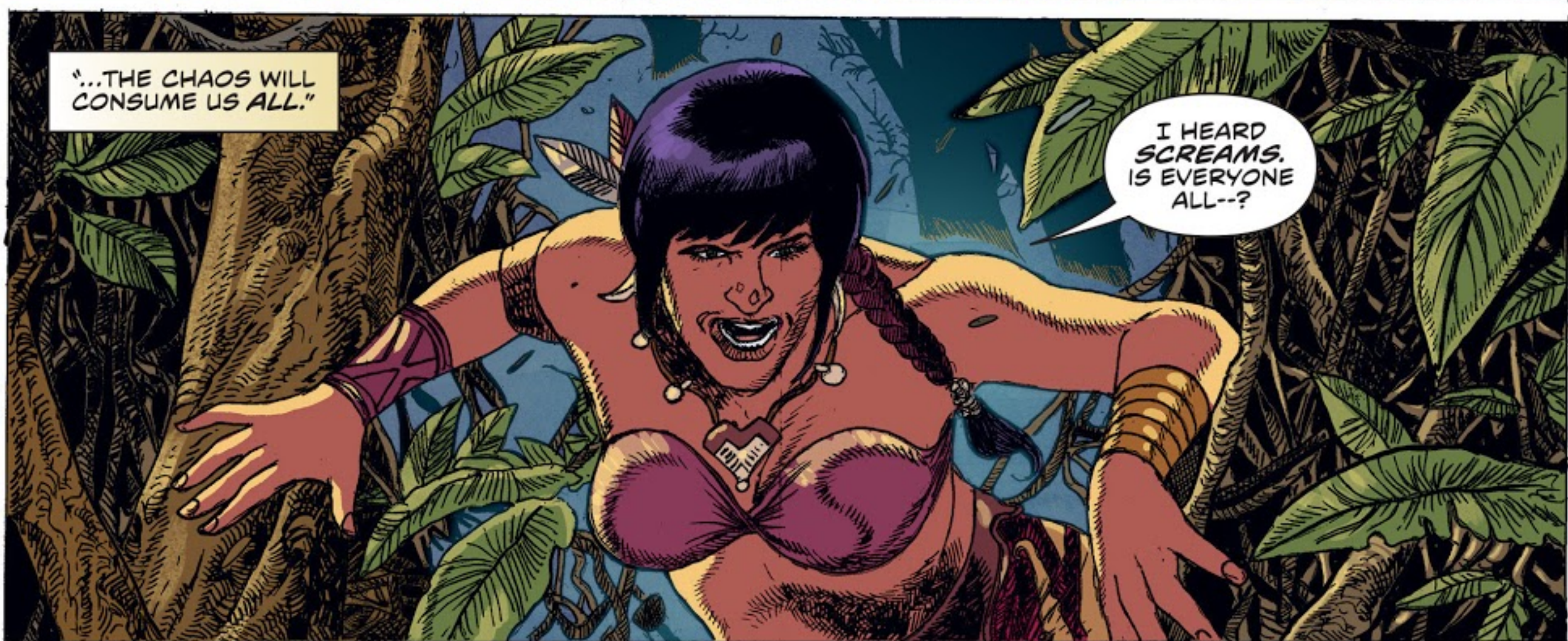
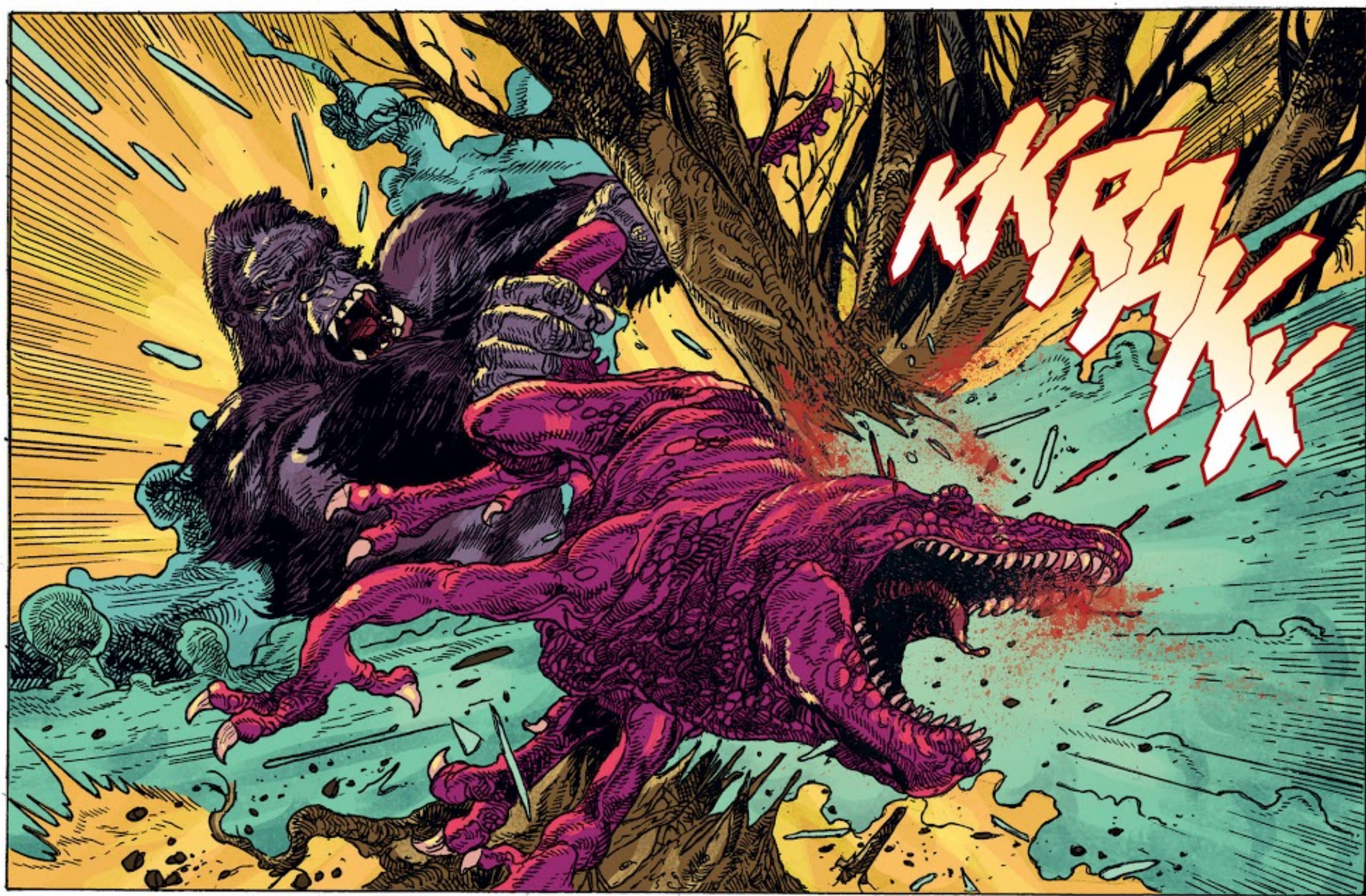
THE OTHER
TRAINERS AND I
BARELY ESCAPED
THE SHORE ALIVE--
WITH KONG
FIGHTING BY OUR
SIDE!

SO PERHAPS
THE REAL QUESTION
IS--WHY WOULD YOUR
GODS WANT THIS?
OR IS IT MORE LIKELY
TO BE THE WILL OF
YOUR--



--SHAMAN?







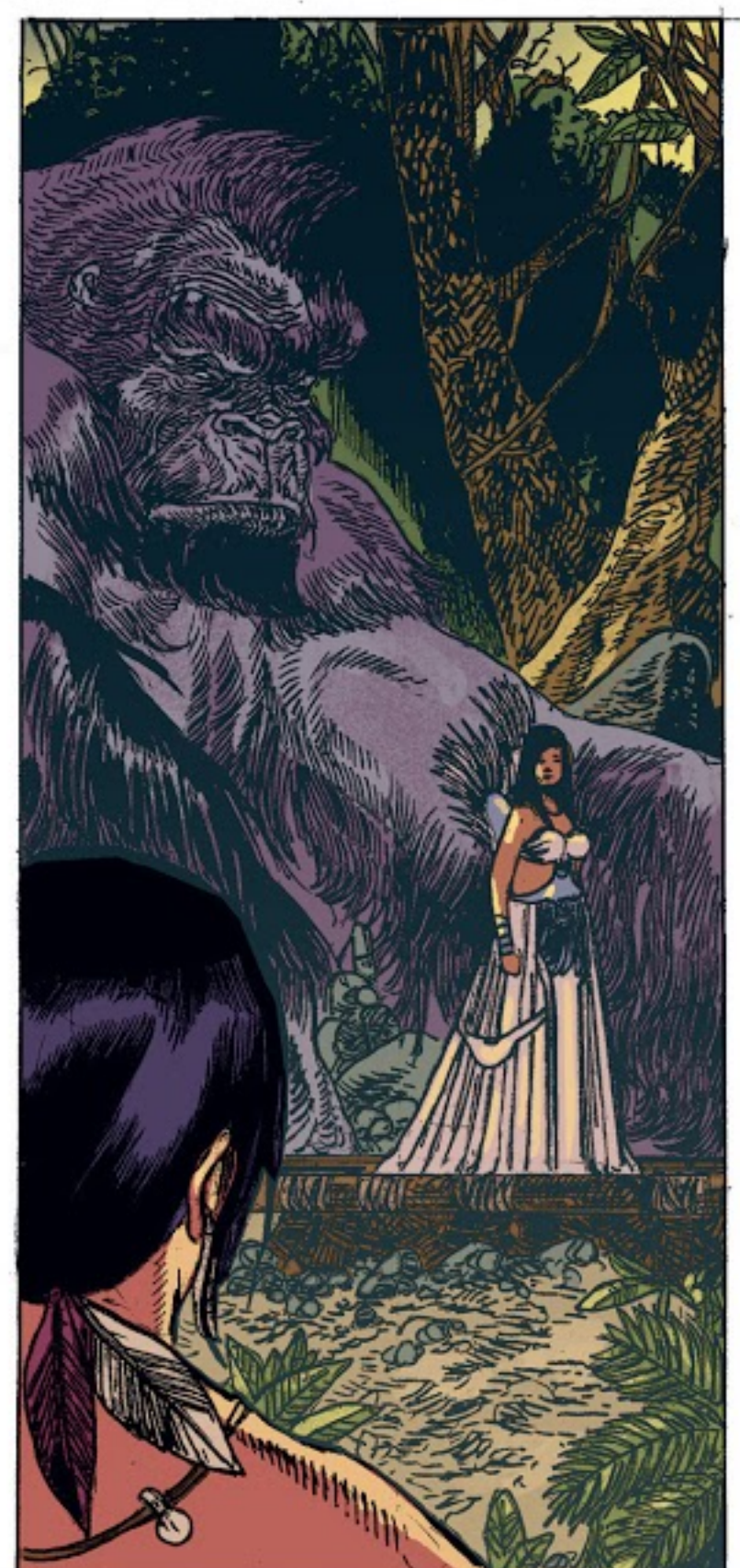
-RRRBLUUGH GZ



EWATA?! OH, BLESSINGS!

I-I WILL BE FINE, K'TAWN. JUST...THE SMELL SUDDENLY...

YOU ARE CARRYING CHILD, AREN'T YOU?!



EWATA...? IF YOU ARE PREGNANT, YOU SHOULDN'T BE OUT HERE--

NO! I-- I'M FINE.

VALLA?! COME.



SHE
CARRIES HIS
CHILD...



TRUE
ROYAL
BLOOD.

AND IF
ENOUGH TAGU
KNEW OF THEIR
LOVE...EVEN IF SHE
DENIES IT, THAT
CHILD WOULD SNAP
OUR TENUOUS HOLD
ON A UNIFIED
CROWN.



OH
GODS...
WHAT WE
DID...

...IT
WAS ALL FOR
NOTHING?

ONLY IF WE
ALLOW THIS TO
COME TO PASS.



DO
WE STILL
HAVE MEAT
FOR THE
KONG?

FATHER?!
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?!
I--

--I DON'T
WANT TO
HURT THAT
CHILD. I
WON'T!



WORRY
NOT, MY
HEART. WE
DON'T HAVE
TO...



...NOT
WHEN THE
DEMONS
WILL DO IT
FOR US.



GETTING CLOSE. I'LL REST ONCE WE--

EWATA?

WHAT? ANOTHER ATTACK?!



NO. THIS.

AN ALTERNATE PHEROMONE MIXTURE. FROM K'TAWN. LESS DETECTABLE ODOR.



I... APPRECIATE THE KINDNESS. BUT K'TAWN ASSUMED WRONGLY.

NO MATTER. THE SCENT WAS DISTRACTING.

WE NEED YOUR SENSES SHARP.



IF YOU STILL STRUGGLE, MY HEART, ASK YOURSELF THIS--

--WILL THE DEVILS OF THIS ISLAND WAIT THE YEARS THAT BABY WOULD REQUIRE BEFORE IT GROWS FIT TO LEAD?

...NO. THEY WOULDN'T WAIT A DAY.

AND THUS, NEITHER CAN WE.



"ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER--THIS
ENDS TONIGHT."

QUIET.
BE
STILL...

WE MAY
HAVE CROSSED
THE SECOND HALF
WITH ONLY ONE
ATTACK...

...BUT ONLY
BECAUSE THE
PHEROMONES MADE
US SMELL LIKE THE
TOP PREDATOR OF
THOSE WILDS.



AND
IT LOOKS AS IF
THERE MIGHT BE
SOMETHING
BIGGER.



¿SNFF?
¿SNFFFF--?¿

VALLA?
WHAT IS IT?
I SMELL
LIKE--?



ENOUGH. DO NOT
RISK THESE MEN AND
WOMEN'S SAFETY SO
THAT YOU MAY PLAY
WITH YOUR PET,
EWATA.

TAKE THAT
KONG AND A TORCH.
WE NEED A CAREFUL
CHECK OF THE CAVE
BEFORE WE ALL GO
STOMPING--

WHAT DID YOU
JUST GIVE ME?



AN
ORDER.

DO
YOU NEED
TO HEAR IT
FROM YOUR
QUEEN?



I BELIEVE
EWATA NEEDS
TO HEAR IT
WITH
RESPECT.

MBETI,
PLEASE,
DON'T--



WOULD YOU
RATHER I
PUSH YOUR
KONG IN
ALONE?

YOUR
DECISION.



I'LL
GO!

THEN WE
COME WITH
YOU. TUNO!
TAKANI!
COME.

WHAT?!
YOU TAKE
ALL THREE
OF YOUR
KONG?!

YOU
ARE ALL
WELCOME
TO COME
WITH US.



WAIT.
CAN YOU
FEEL
IT?



THE STORM
WINDS ARE
TURNING.

ANY SCENT
IS ABOUT
TO TRAVEL
DIRECTLY--



SNFF
SNFFFF

HNGRRRR--



RAO
OAR
H!



WHAT ARE
THEY SAYING?
THERE IS
SOMETHING IN
THERE?!

PERHAPS THIS
REQUIRES--

NO.
THAT WAS A
WARNING--

--TO
US.





**TO BE
CONTINUED...**



KONG

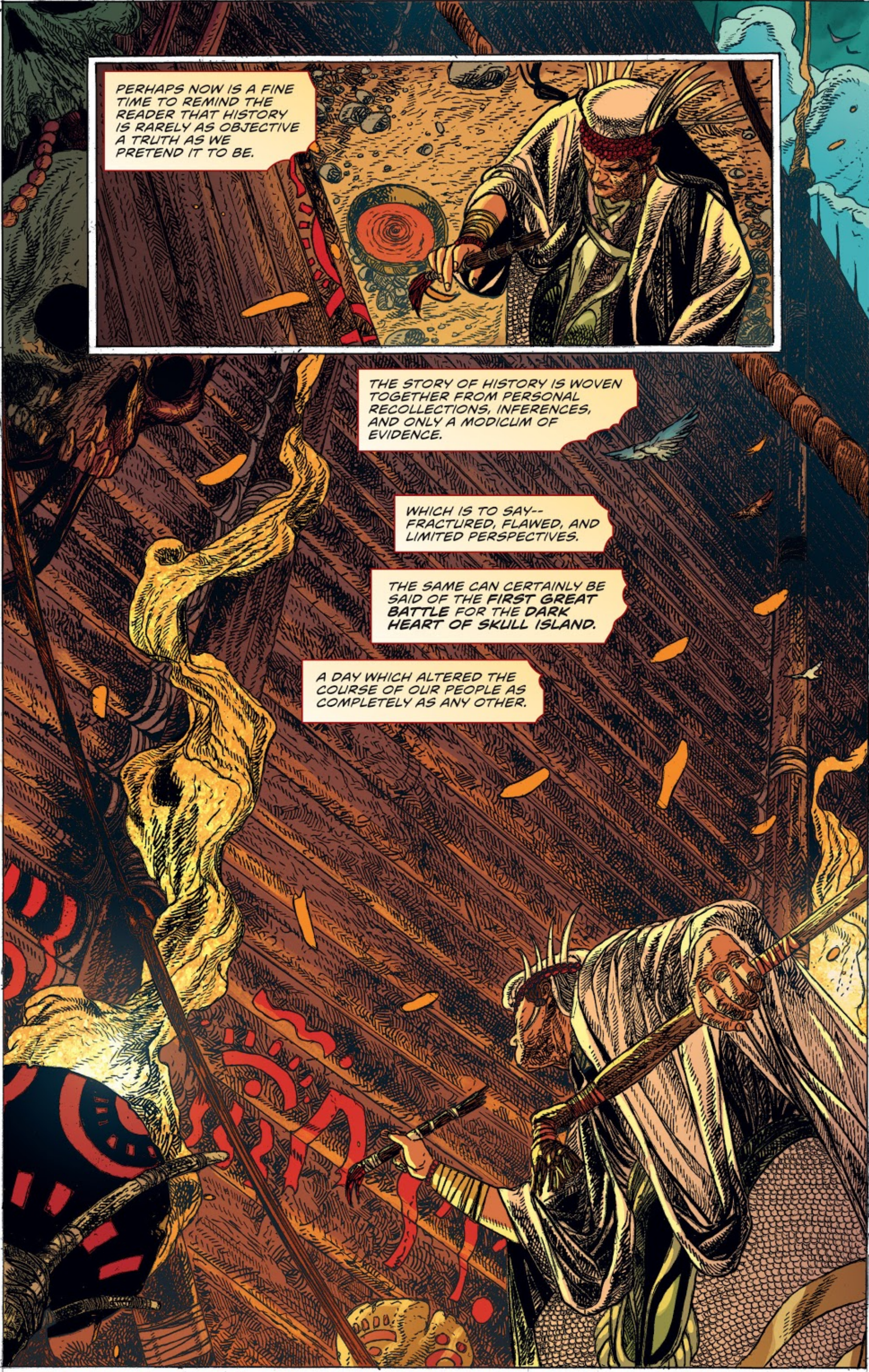
OF SKULL ISLAND™

NO. 6

BOOM!
STUDIOS

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
BRAD SIMPSON

Reb/es



PERHAPS NOW IS A FINE
TIME TO REMIND THE
READER THAT HISTORY
IS RARELY AS OBJECTIVE
A TRUTH AS WE
PRETEND IT TO BE.

THE STORY OF HISTORY IS WOVEN
TOGETHER FROM PERSONAL
RECOLLECTIONS, INFERENCES,
AND ONLY A MODICUM OF
EVIDENCE.

WHICH IS TO SAY--
FRACTURED, FLAWED, AND
LIMITED PERSPECTIVES.

THE SAME CAN CERTAINLY BE
SAID OF THE FIRST GREAT
BATTLE FOR THE DARK
HEART OF SKULL ISLAND.

A DAY WHICH ALTERED THE
COURSE OF OUR PEOPLE AS
COMPLETELY AS ANY OTHER.

BY ALL ACCOUNTS, THE
BEAST--THE GOD--WHICH
RULED OVER THIS ISLAND
WAS A CREATURE UNLIKE
ANY OTHER.

THE FACE OF
MADNESS AND
HORROR.

BEYOND THAT, THOSE WHO
SURVIVED COULD MOSTLY ONLY
RECALL THE SMELL OF BLOOD
THICKENING IN THE AIR.

AND THE SCREAMS
OF MAN, WOMAN,
DEMON, AND KONG.

OH
GODS...THIS
IS HELL...



NO.
LISTEN
TO ME!

TWINS!
THERE ARE
RECORDS
IN THE
BREEDERS'
HISTORY!

TWINS THAT
SIMPLY...GREW
CONNECTED.



IT IS A RARITY,
CERTAINLY--

--BUT THAT
IS STILL AN
ANIMAL!



AND
IF IT IS AN
ANIMAL--
KONG CAN
KILL IT.



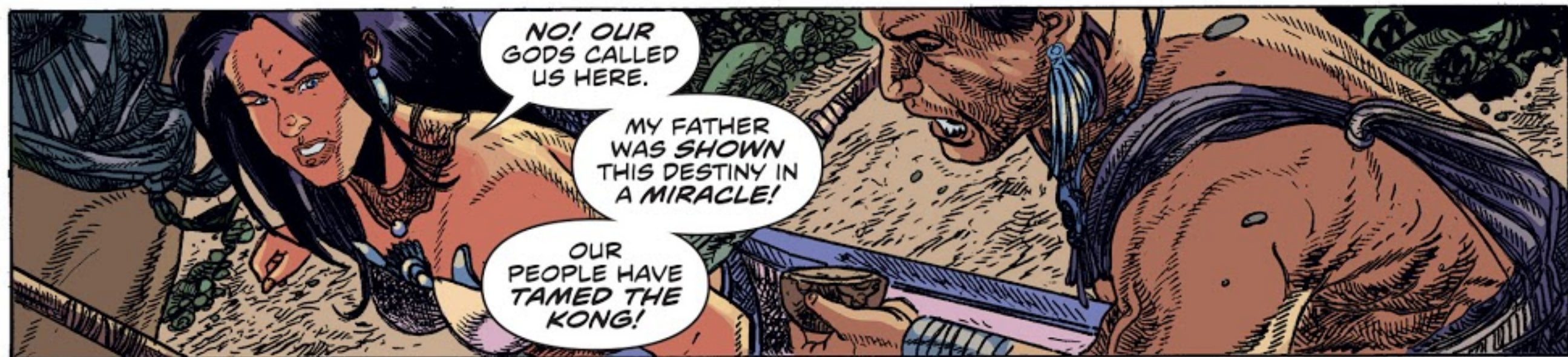
THESE DEMONS...
THEY LEAD US
HERE! TO THEIR
GOD?!

THIS
IS TOO
MANY. WE
SHOULD
GO--

GAW!
GAW!

GAW!

GAW!



NO! OUR
GODS CALLED
US HERE.

MY FATHER
WAS SHOWN
THIS DESTINY IN
A MIRACLE!

OUR
PEOPLE HAVE
TAMED THE
KONG!



I WILL SHOW
YOU--WE WILL
DOMINATE THIS
SAVAGE PLACE
AS WELL!



KSSH



THEIR KIND IS NOT
FOOLED BY THE
PHEROMONES!

SKREEEEEE

GRET!
YOUR
KONG!

KILL
THESE
THINGS!!







VALLA, YOU...
YOU HAVE TO
HELP THE
OTHERS!

IF THESE
ARE AFTER
ME...

...I COULD
AT LEAST LEAD
THEM AWAY.
BUY YOU ALL
SOME TIME
BEFORE
THEY--

SKREEEE
SKREEEE
SKREEEE



APOLOGIES,
EWATA! BUT I
CANNOT LET YOU
SACRIFICE
YOURSELF.

YOU
ARE THE
ONLY TRAINER
WHOSE KONG
GIVE MINE
A DECENT
FIGHT!

SKREEEE

SKREEEE
SKREEEE



THIS IS
ABSDRD!
AM I NOT THE
QUEEN?!

YOU ARE,
MY HEART.
SO WHY BE
COY ANY
LONGER?

MEN!
CONSIDER IT
A SACRED
DECREE
FROM YOUR
QUEEN--

--I BELIEVE WE
HAVE A TRAITOR
IN OUR MIDST,
AND SHE MUST
NOT SURVIVE
THIS FIGHT.

ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER.



WITH RESPECT
TO YOUR
HOLINESS--?

HNH!!

MY
BROTHERS AND I
ARE WARRING FOR
OUR LIVES! YOU CAN
CONVENE A TRIAL
ONCE WE ARE BACK
TO SAFETY.



HNH--?!
OF ALL THE
TIMES TO...

I THINK
I JUST FELT
IT...MOVE.



FELT
IT...?

...OH GODS.
A BABY. A
TRUE-BLOODED
ROYAL BABY?

EWATA! GET
OUT OF HERE!
USANA AND THE
SHAMAN...



...THEY
PLAN FOR
YOU TO DIE
HERE!



WHAT?!
VALLA,
WAIT--!

WHY
ARE YOU
CLIMBING?!

I SEE...

THE GODS
CALL FOR
ME.

STAY
SAFE,
USANA.

I WILL
DELIVER
THEIR FATE
MYSELF.

GODSPEED.

MY QUEEN!
PLEASE! I-I
THOUGHT WE
COULD HANDLE
ALL THIS,
BUT...

...THEY ARE
EVERYWHERE!!

IF MY
MIXTURES
WORKED ON
THE OTHER
CREATURES--
BUT NOT
THESE...

...WE
WON'T
SURVIVE
THIS! WE
HAVE TO
GO!

YOU ARE
RIGHT,
K'TAWN.





HRR--SST

VALLA!
DO NOT
LEAVE ME UP
HERE! I NEED
TO HELP THE
OTHERS--!



YOU CAN
GO AS FAR
UP THIS
MOUNTAIN AS
YOU WISH,
EWATA!

BUT YOU
ARE NEVER
COMING
DOWN.



HGGRRRAA

YES,
BEAST--
FACE
ME.



HNRAAA--!

PTTF



YOU THINK I
WOULD LIVE IN
THE SHADOW
OF THESE
MONSTERS--

--AND NOT
PREPARE
TO KILL A
KONG?!



I HAVE KILLED KINGS!

YOU... K'RETI--?



I WILL NOT HESITATE TO RIP THE NEXT FROM YOUR BELLY!

NO...



K-KRAAK--

NOOO!



-KOOOM

N'AAAA!

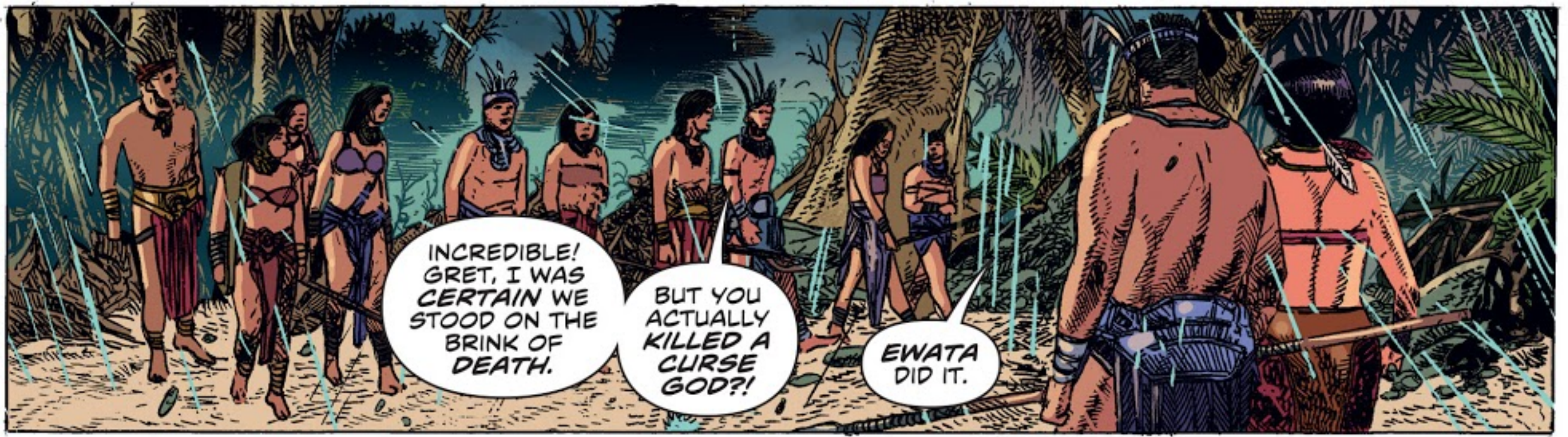


AAAAGGH!









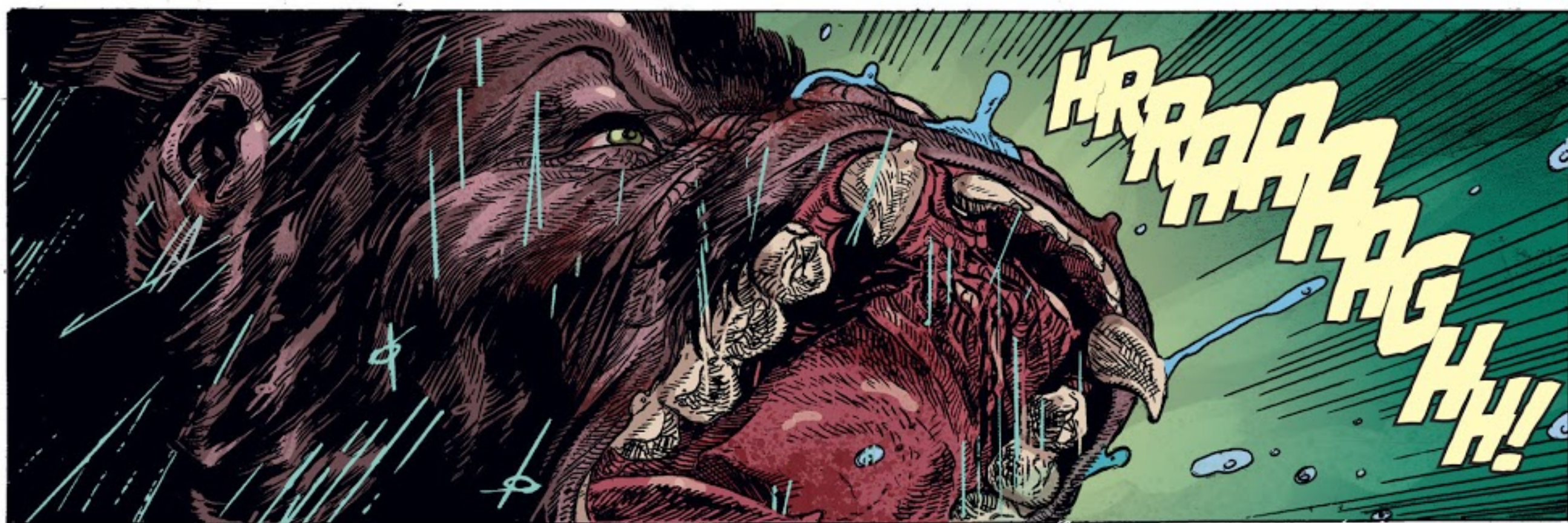


CALM YOURSELF, BANNI.

NO! IF THE SHAMAN WAS STRUCK DOWN--IT WAS NOT BY DIVINE HANDS!

THE SHAMAN WARNED OF A FEMALE TRAITOR!

YOUR RELATIONS WITH THE LATE PRINCE WERE NO SECRET. WAS THIS YOUR JILTED REVENGE AGAINST HIS BRIDE?!



HRRAA
AG
HH!



YOUR KONG?! YOU HAD YOUR BEAST KILL OUR LINK TO THE GODS?!

NO--!

YES! I SAW IT. VALLA ONLY ACTED TO PROTECT HER.



V'DRELL WENT TO KILL EWATA--

HE WAS AFTER THE BABY SHE CARRIES.



OUR TRIBES WERE FINALLY JOINING TOGETHER.

QUEEN USANA--EVEN THE ATU PEOPLE WILL DEMAND JUSTICE.

I KNOW...



ORDER IS WHAT SEPARATES US FROM THE ANIMALS.

AT LEAST, THAT IS THE LIE WE TELL OURSELVES.

SO NATURALLY, AFTER LOSING
NEARLY **EVERYTHING**, OUR
PEOPLE UNITED BEYOND
ANYTHING IN OUR HISTORY.

THERE WAS EVEN
A GROUNDSWELL TO
BEGIN IDENTIFYING AS
THE TAGU-ATU. ONE
PEOPLE.

AND AS IF PUSHING AGAINST THE CHAOS
OF SKULL ISLAND, OUR WOMEN AND MEN
CONSTRUCTED A VILLAGE, A GREAT
WALL, AND A NEW SOCIETY--

--ALL IN THE TIME
SINGLE ENDEAVORS
HAD UNFOLDED IN
SIMPLER YEARS.

AFTER USANA FAILED
TO RETURN FOR SEVEN
NIGHTS, HER GUARDS
ADMITTED SHE HAD FLED
THE SACRED BATTLE.

IT WAS NOT LONG BEFORE
PEOPLE TURNED TO EWATA
FOR GUIDANCE.

SHE WOULD HALF-SERIOUSLY ASK
THESE PEOPLE TO WAIT UNTIL HER
CHILD MIGHT BE OLD ENOUGH TO
RIGHTFULLY DECIDE.

BUT QUEEN EWATA
EVENTUALLY ACCEPTED
THE IDEA--

--THAT THINGS
ARE NO LONGER
AS THEY WERE.

SHOULD
I **FEAR**
WHAT YOU
WRITE THERE,
SANI?

NO. BUT NOT
TO WASH THE
BLOOD OFF
YOUR HANDS,
EWATA.

HISTORY WILL
TEACH THE LIE
BECAUSE THE TRUTH
SURROUNDING V'DRELL'S
DEATH WOULD DESTROY
THE FAITH OF HALF OUR
PEOPLE. AND THAT
WOULD UPEND
EVERYTHING.

THIS ISLAND
WANTS TO
CHANGE US
ALL.

YOUR SACRED
OATH REQUIRING
YOU TO **OUT** THE
SECRET I CRIED
TO YOU AS MY
COUSIN?

OUR DUTY NOW
IS TO FIGHT TO
HANG ONTO THE
BEST PARTS OF
OURSELVES.

I USED
THE LAST OF
THE OLD ISLAND
PLANTS IN MAKING
THIS INCENSE.
I HOPE IT
WORKS.

THANK
YOU, K'TAWN.
AND I BELIEVE
IT DID.

IT TOOK EVERY SHRED
OF GOODWILL EWATA
HAD EARNED TO SPARE
VALLA'S LIFE.

GOOD TO
SEE YOU,
VALLA.

AND I
WANTED TO
INTRODUCE YOU
TO THE GIRL
YOU SAVED--

--THIS IS
K'VANNI. MY
DAUGHTER.

RESCUING THE FIRST SHIP.
LEADING THE BATTLE TO
SECURE OUR SHORES.
RISKING HER LIFE TO REALIZE
THE WILL OF ATU GODS...

...ANY POLITICAL CAPITAL GAINED
WAS SPENT IN ALLOWING THE KONG
WHO MURDERED THE SHAMAN
TO LIVE, EXILED, AMONG THE
OTHER MONSTERS.

PERHAPS QUEEN
EWATA WILL COME
TO REGRET THIS
MERCY--



--ON A DARK DAY WHEN
THE PEOPLE SHE NEEDS NO
LONGER FEEL THEY OWE
HER A DEBT.



AND IN THIS LAND
WE NOW INHABIT,
DARK DAYS ARE
NEVER FAR OFF.

I DO NOT
CLAIM TO HAVE
THE POWER OR
THE BLESSINGS
OF OUR BELOVED,
DEPARTED
SHAMAN.



BUT IN A TIME
OF CHAOS, HE
WAS OUR
SALVATION!

NOW THAT THERE
IS RELATIVE PEACE?
I UNDERSTAND IF
PEOPLE MAY NOT
SEEK DOMINANT
LEADERSHIP.

BUT THERE
WILL BE
ANOTHER
CHAOS...



THIS PLACE SURROUNDS US
WITH MONSTERS. BUT THE
TRUE DANGER IS THAT IF
WE ARE NOT VIGILANT...

...IT WILL MAKE
MONSTERS OF US.

TO BE CONTINUED...




KONG

OF SKULL ISLAND™

NO. 7
BOOM!
STUDIOS

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
JEREMY LAWSON



JUST AS
THE GODS HAVE
BLESSED US WITH
THIS MIRACULOUS
CONTINUATION OF
THE ROYAL
BLOOD--

--SO DO WE
HONOR THE GODS,
IN ANOINTING THE
FUTURE QUEEN
OF THE TAGU-ATU
PEOPLE IN THEIR
NAMES!

**BLESSINGS BE!
BLESSINGS BE!
BLESSINGS BE!**




THANK YOU ALL.
AS THE...MOTHER
OF THE RIGHTFUL
QUEEN, MANY OF
YOU HAVE COME
TO ME FOR
GUIDANCE.




BUT I AM NO
MONARCH.

AFTER SEEKING
THE GUIDANCE OF
YOUR--OUR--SHAMAN,
AND CONSULTING ANY
PRECEDENCE
KNOWN TO OUR
STORYTELLER--



--I RECOGNIZE
MY DUTY TO SERVE
IN MY DAUGHTER'S
PLACE UNTIL SHE IS
OLD ENOUGH
TO RULE.



HOWEVER, I WILL
NOT MAKE THESE
DECISIONS
ALONE--

--IN RECOGNITION
OF THESE UNIQUE
CIRCUMSTANCES, I HAVE
GATHERED TAGU AND ATU
MINDS TO BE A NEW
ORDER OF ADVISORS.



I SWORE A
SACRED OATH.

AS A STORYTELLER, I AM
TO REMAIN AN OBJECTIVE
OBSERVER.

THAT PROMISE
HAS NEVER
BEFORE FELT AS
IMPOSSIBLE--

--OR AS
NECESSARY.

OUR LIVES ARE NO
LONGER WHAT THEY
WERE. WE WILL ONLY
SURVIVE BY FORGING
A NEW PATH, A NEW
LIFE--TOGETHER.

**BLESSINGS BE!
BLESSINGS BE!**

IT IS A STARTLING THING TO
FIND OURSELVES SEVERED
SO COMPLETELY FROM THE
WORLD WE KNEW.

BUT AS THE CHAOS
QUIETS AND THE BLOOD
SHED BEGINS TO DRY...

...CLEARER EYES
SEARCH FOR NEW
PATHS FORWARD.

BLESSINGS
BE.

THERE IS NO WAY TO
KNOW WHICH DIRECTION
WILL REDEEM US.

BUT IF WE DIVERGE FROM EACH
OTHER, IT ONLY GUARANTEES
WE WILL BE MORE VULNERABLE
TO DARKNESS AHEAD.













HELP HIM!

DID IT DO THIS TO YOU?!

NO. IT...IT FOUND ME--

BACK! STAY BACK!



HOLD! HOLD! DO NOT HARM HER!

QUEEN EWATA?! WHAT ARE YOU--?!



ALL THE VILLAGE HEARD YOUR SCREAMS. BUT SHE IS NOT A THREAT!

VALLA HAS KEPT HER DISTANCE FOR MORE THAN A CALENDAR.



SHE UNDERSTANDS THERE IS GREAT RISK IN RETURNING.

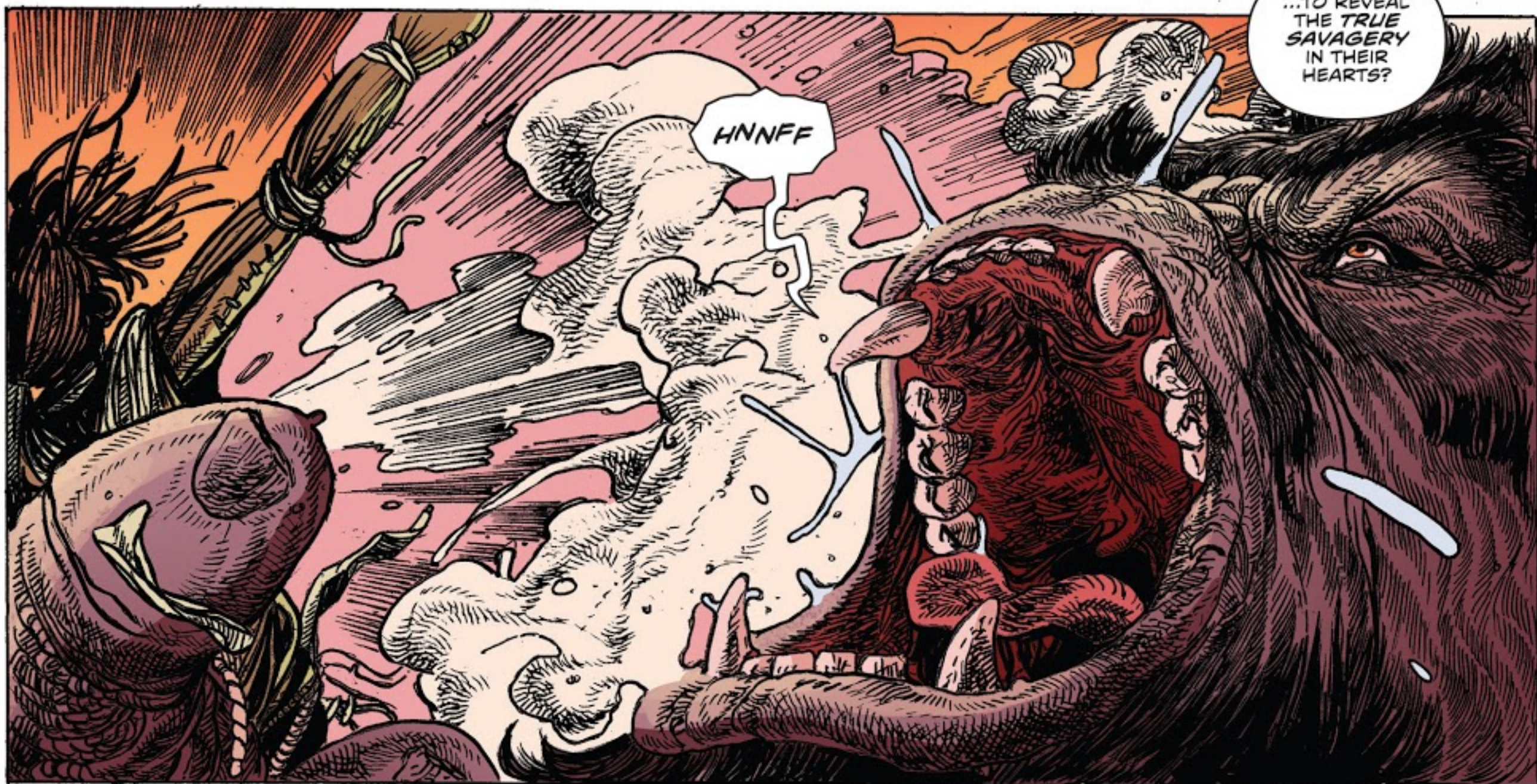
WE SHOULD TAKE THIS AS A SIGN OF GRATITUDE FOR SPARING HER LIFE ONCE--

--AND LET HER GO ON HER WAY. VALLA...?



...THANK YOU, MY FRIEND.







HNNT!
HFNT!

HN GRRRAA AAAAA

N'AA!



B'SAN!

GET UP!
RUN! I
WILL--

THANK



GGR'NAAAAAGH!



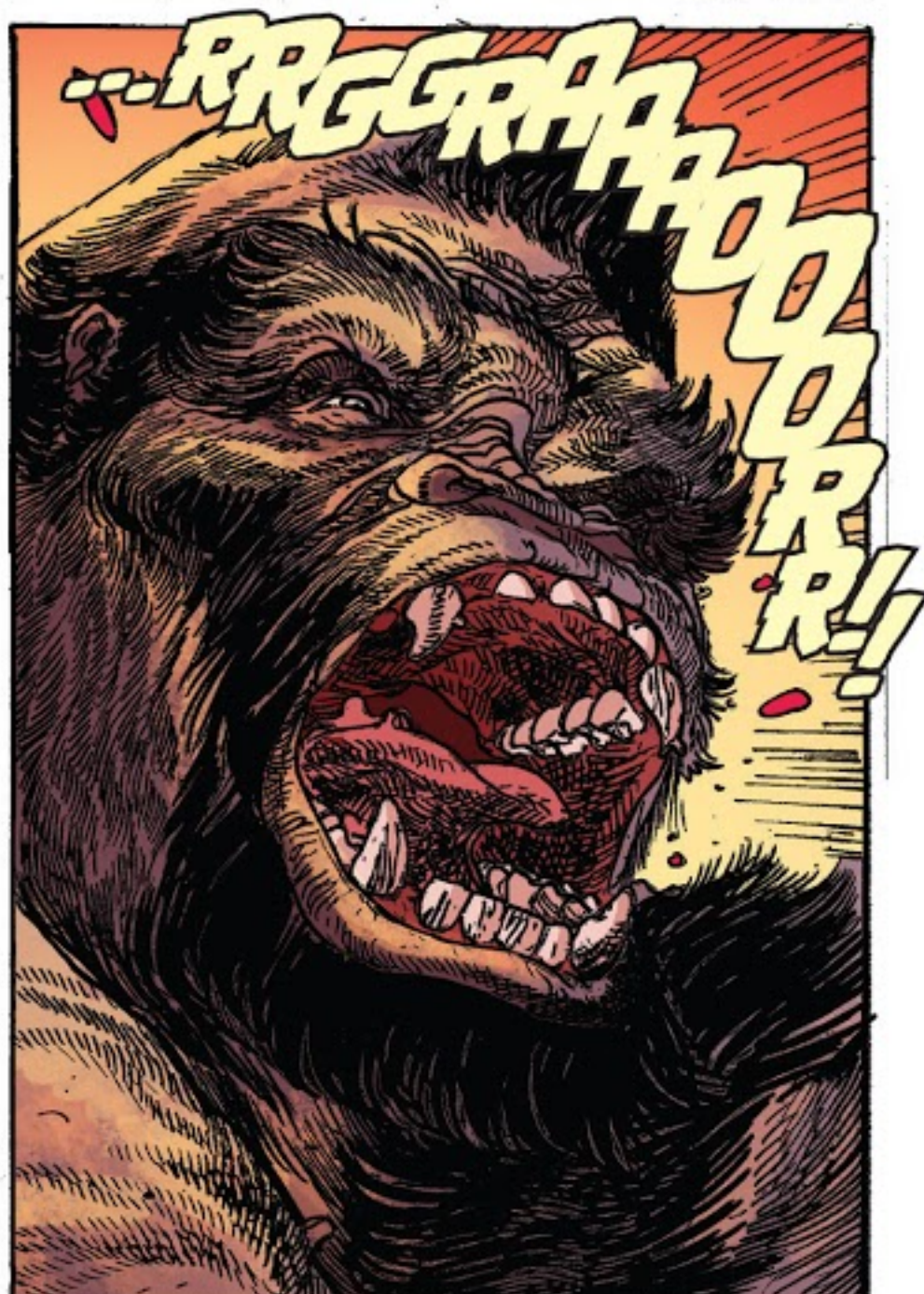
GODS' MERCY...

GO! B'SAN--

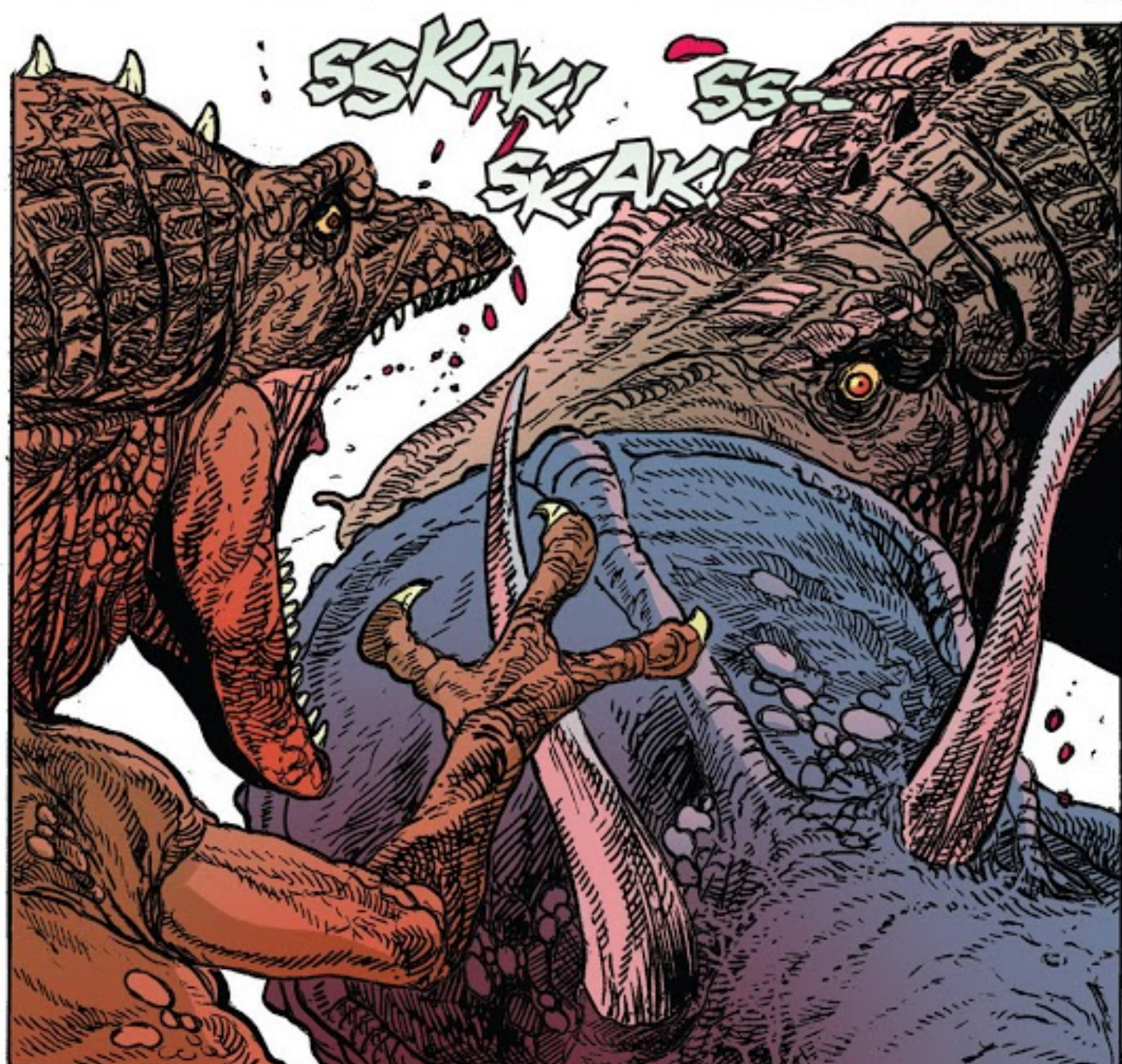
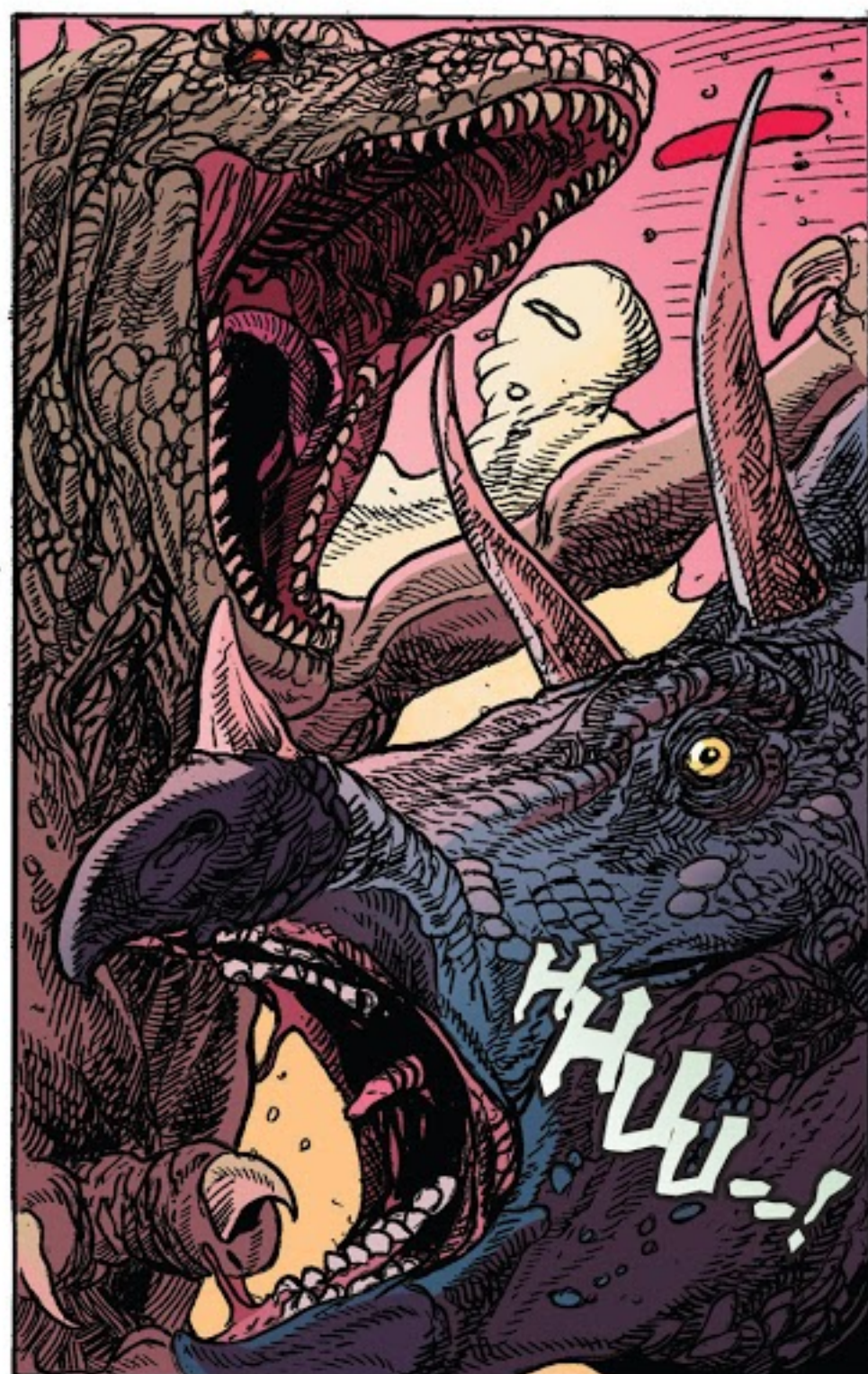


--SHE'LL KILL US!

HGGR...
HGGR...
HGGR...



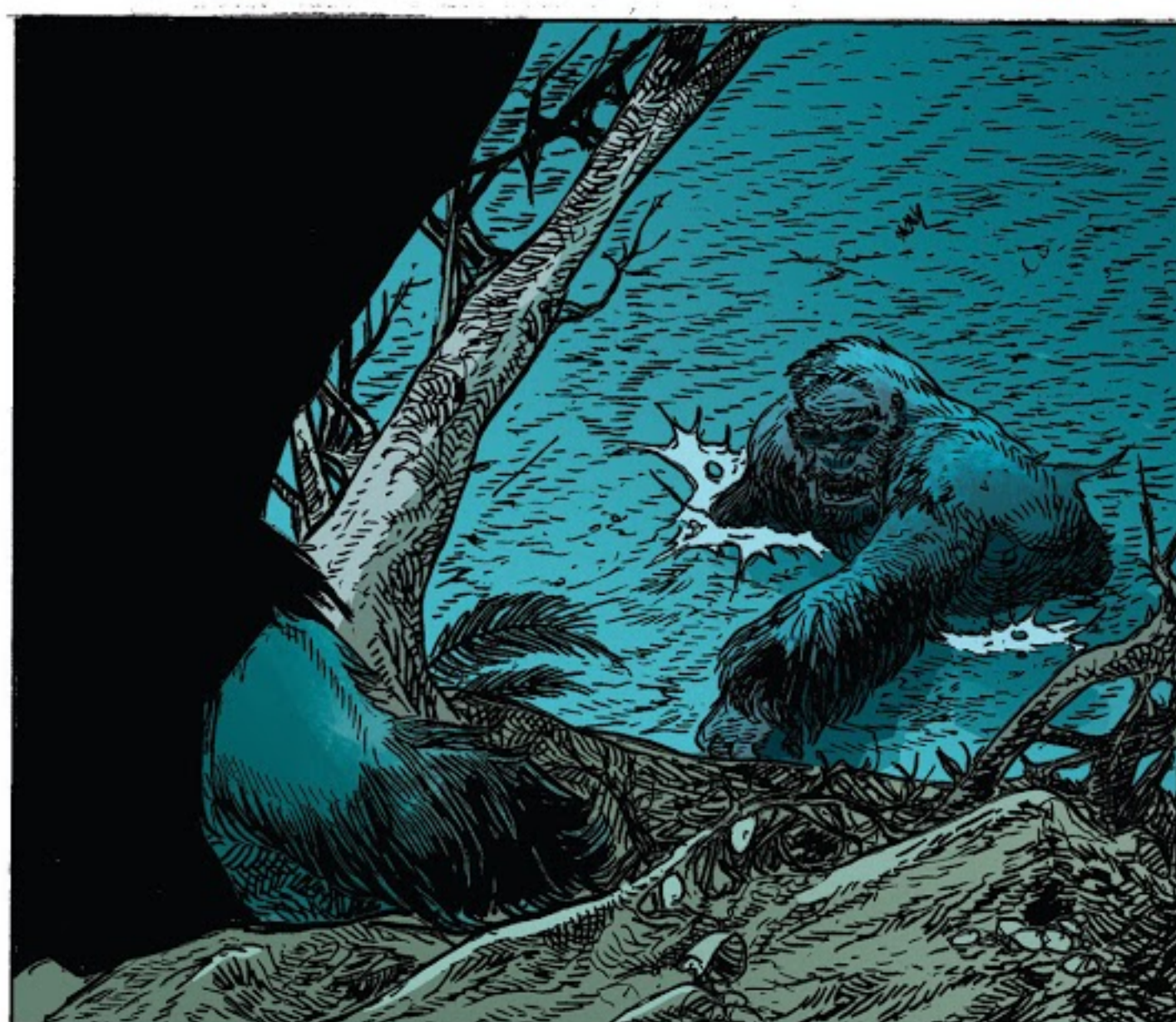
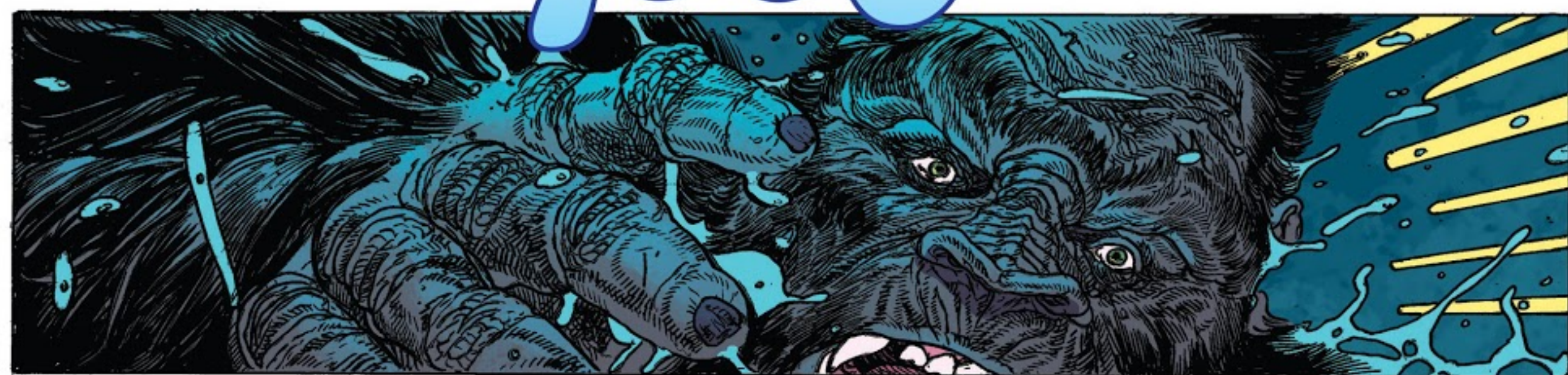
...RRGGRAA...
RRRR!
RRRR!
RRRR!

















RRGHHH!!

NNAAA!

TO BE CONTINUED...

KONG

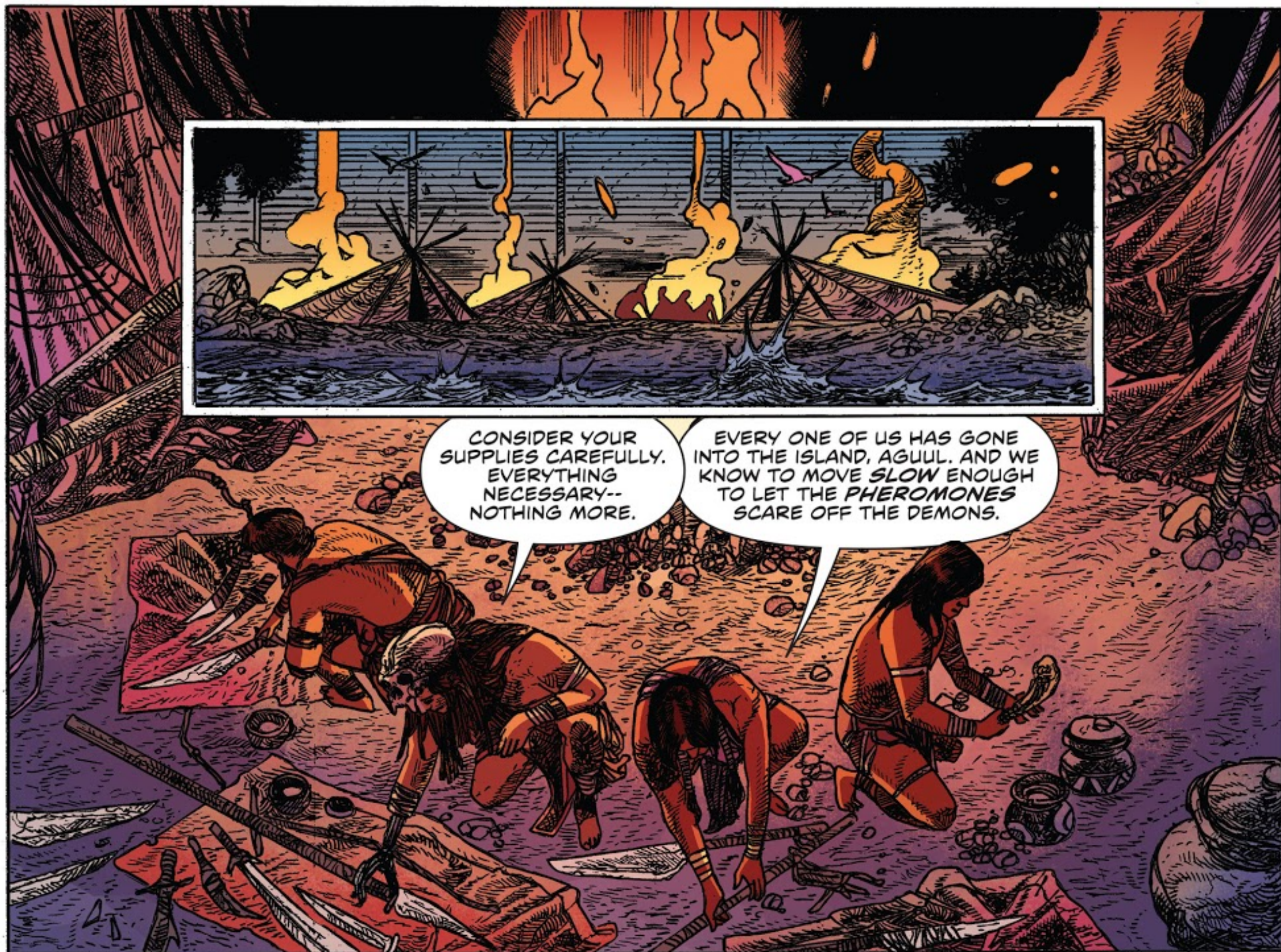
OF SKULL ISLAND™

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
JEREMY LAWSON

NO. 8

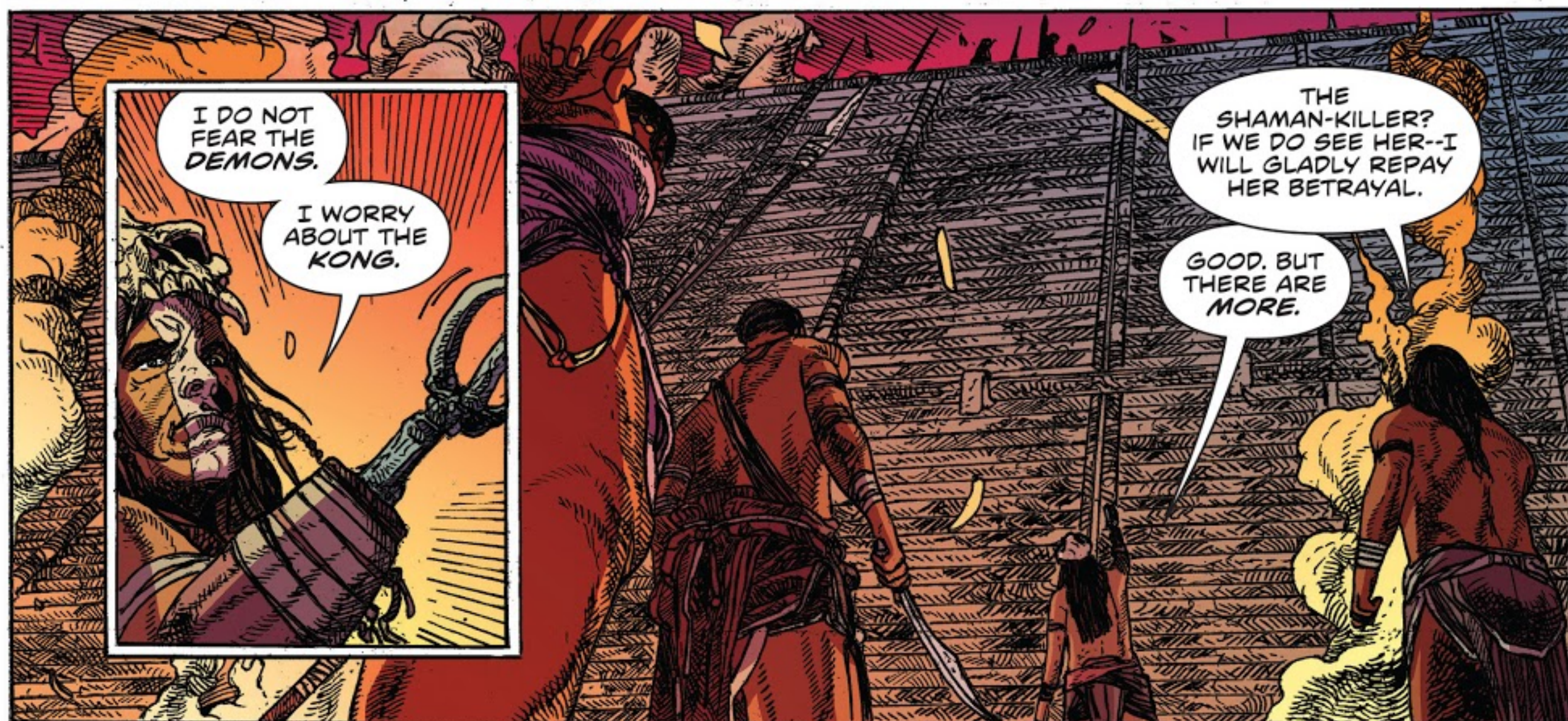
BOOM!
STUDIOS





CONSIDER YOUR SUPPLIES CAREFULLY. EVERYTHING NECESSARY-- NOTHING MORE.

EVERY ONE OF US HAS GONE INTO THE ISLAND, AGUUL. AND WE KNOW TO MOVE *SLOW* ENOUGH TO LET THE *PEROMONES* SCARE OFF THE DEMONS.



I DO NOT FEAR THE DEMONS.

I WORRY ABOUT THE KONG.

THE SHAMAN-KILLER? IF WE DO SEE HER--I WILL GLADLY REPAY HER BETRAYAL.

GOOD. BUT THERE ARE MORE.



MORE THAN THE EXILE?

IT SHOULD BE NO SURPRISE--

"--THIS IS AN ISLE OF MONSTERS AND DARKNESS.

"THIS IS THE KONG'S DOMAIN.

"IN EARLY DAYS, THE GREAT SHAMAN ENLISTED SOME OF US TO TAKE KONG AND GATHER RESOURCES.

"BUT WE COULD FEEL THE CHANGE ONCE WE SET FOOT INSIDE..."

"...ECHOING SCREAMS.

"THE FEEL OF A THOUSAND EYES ON YOU.

"THE STENCH OF BLOOD FILLING YOUR NOSTRILS.

"THE VIOLENCE-- CHAOS-- OF THIS PLACE TOOK SEVERAL OF OUR KONG.

"ONES WHO RAN INTO RUSTLING TREES AND NEVER RETURNED.

"SOME FELL, I ASSUME, TO THE DEMONS--

"--BUT OTHERS SURRENDERED TO BECOMING DEMONS, THEMSELVES."



"SOME DAYS,
WE WOULD SPOT
THEM DURING
EXPEDITIONS.

"BUT IN THE LAST
YEAR, ONLY ONE
HAS BEEN SEEN.



"EITHER THE OTHERS
HAVE BECOME BETTER
AT HIDING--OR SHE IS
THE ONE VICIOUS
ENOUGH TO SURVIVE.



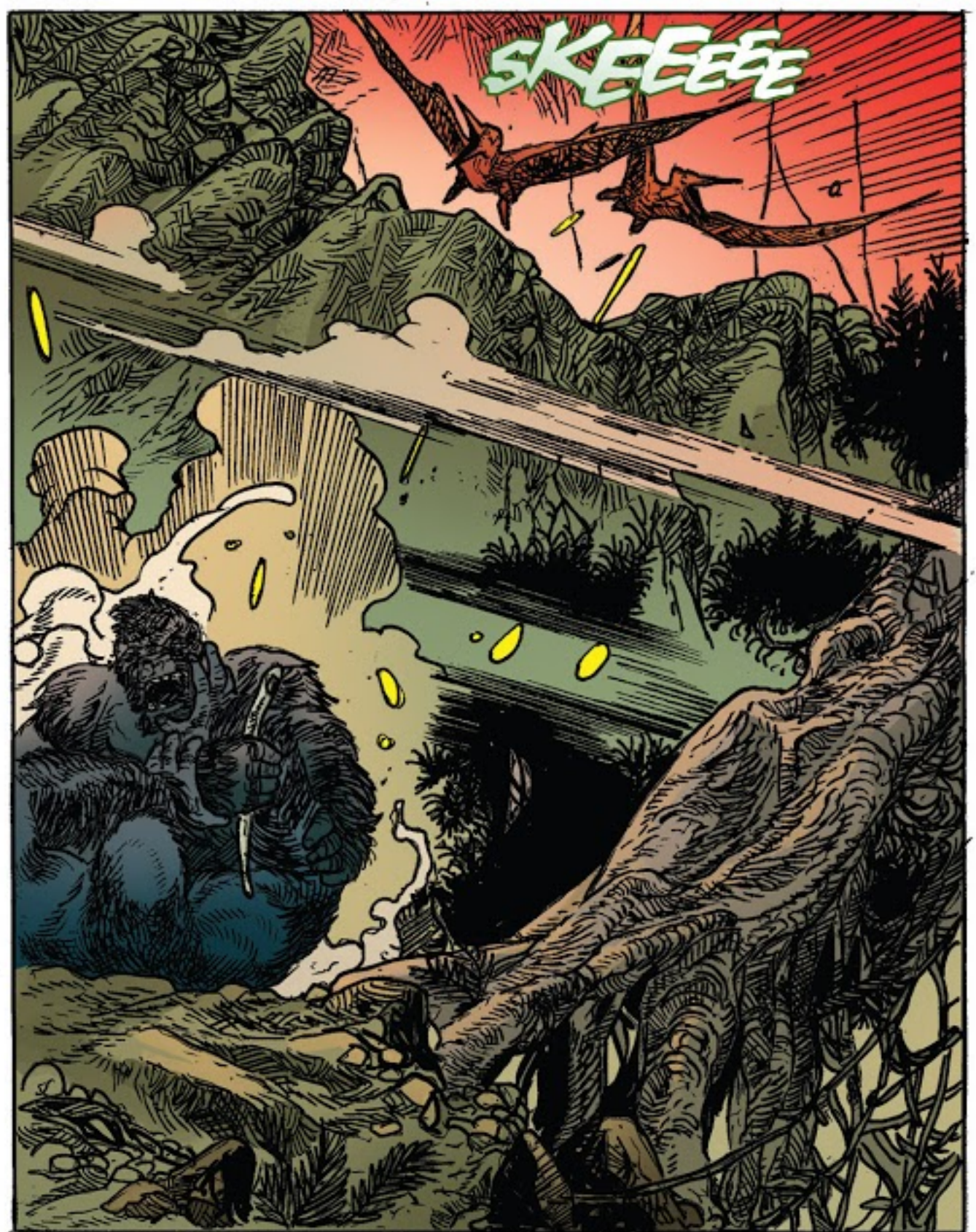
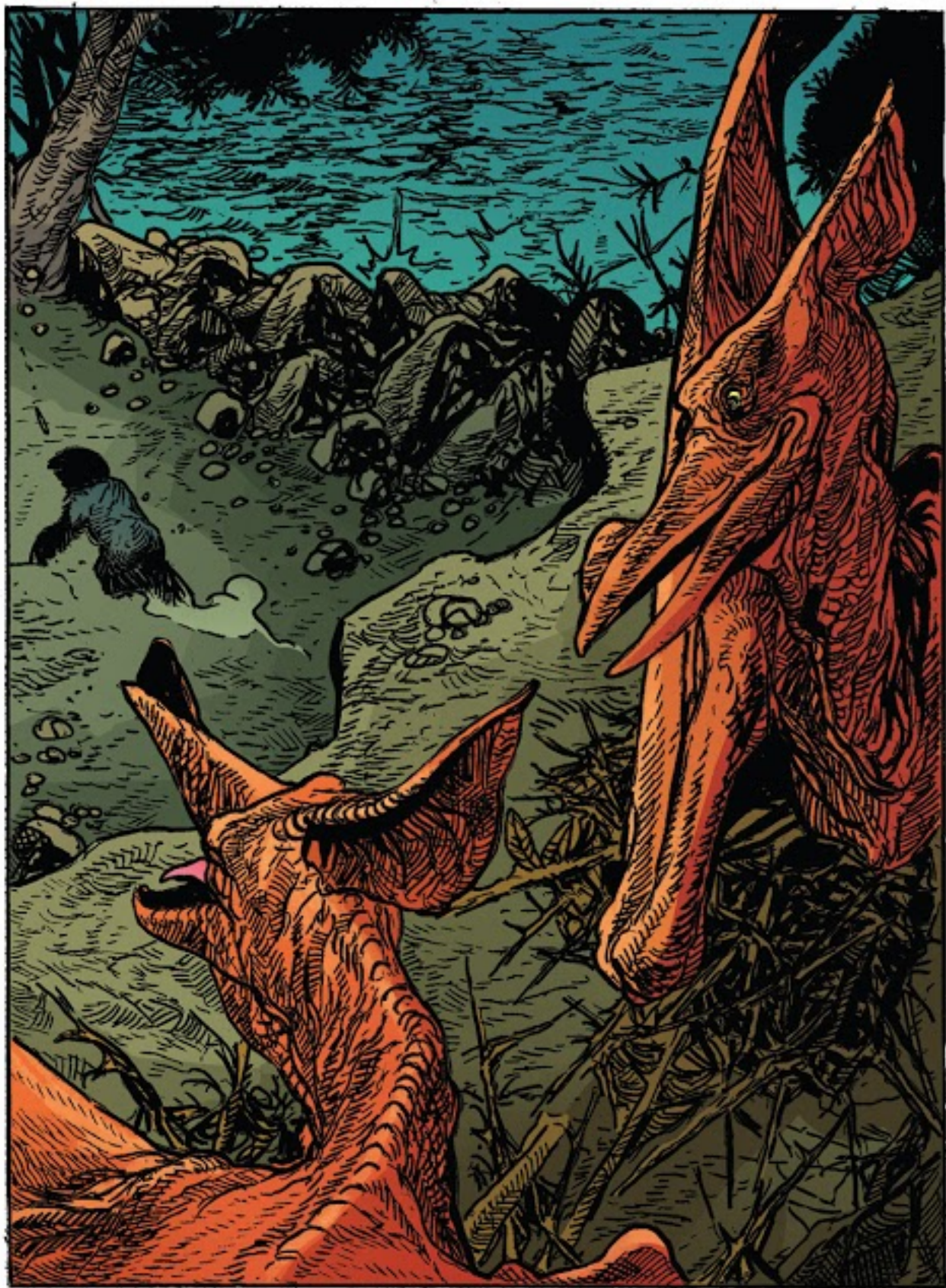
"OR MAYBE...THE
THING THAT REMAINS
IS A GHOST.

HNNN



"AN UNHOLY
SHROUD OF A
BEAST THAT
DIED HERE--

"--BUT WALKS,
ETERNALLY
HUNGRY FOR
MORE PAIN AND
VIOLENCE.







HOW DOES IT LOOK, EESA? WILL THIS GROUND SERVE OUR PURPOSE?



PERHAPS. IT WILL BE TIGHT. BUT, AGUUL...

...WHY DO YOU OPPOSE THE IDEA OF OUR KONG CLEARING MORE--



THE KONG ARE DEMONS.

THEY SHOWED THEIR TRUE EVIL AS OUR HOME SANK.

THEN AGAIN AS ONE SLAUGHTERED OUR GREAT SHAMAN--COST ME MY BODY!



THIS PLACE YOU DESIGN WILL BE OUR LIBERATION FROM THOSE BEASTS--

--AND IT CANNOT COME SOON ENOUGH.

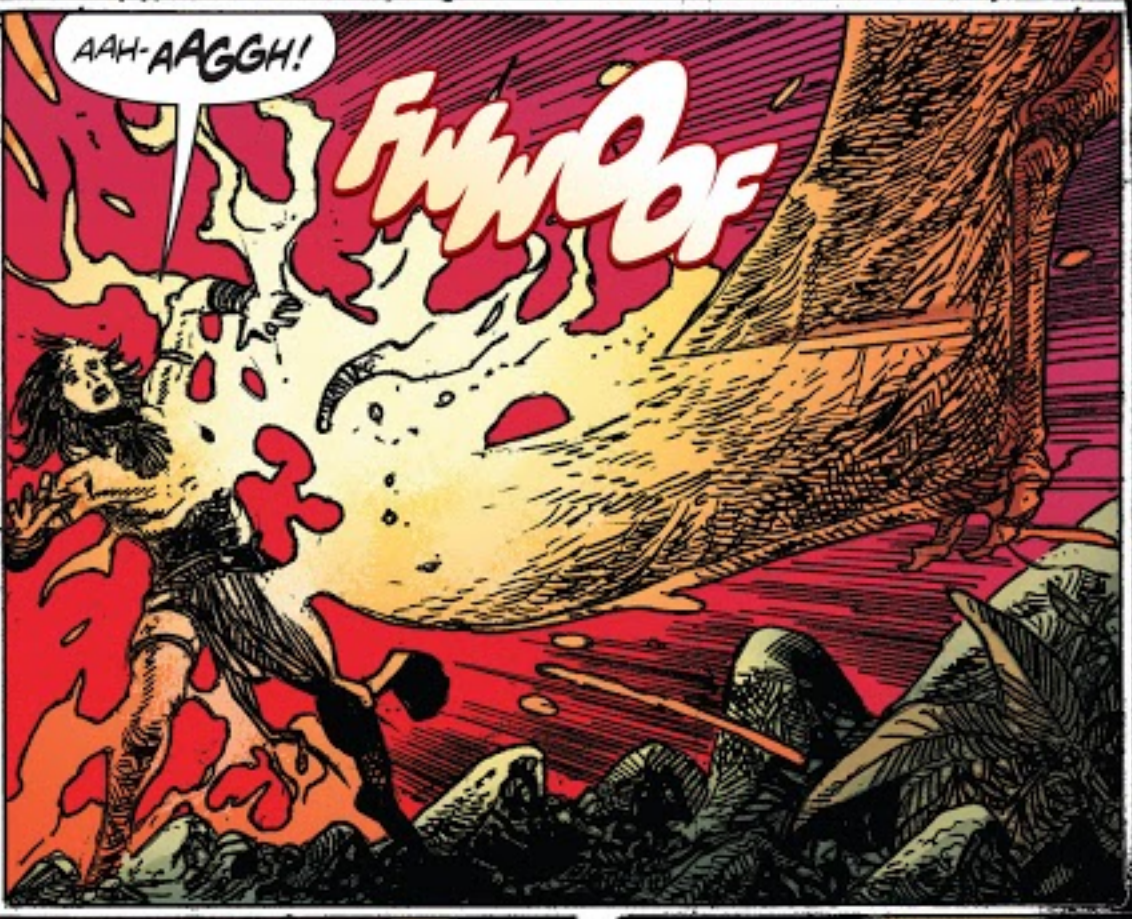


AGUUL? I RECOMMEND WE TURN BACK SOON.

ONCE THIS POT BURNS, I HAVE ONLY ENOUGH INCENSE FOR THE TREK BACK. AND I WOULD RATHER NOT RISK--



DEMONS!!
RUN FOR THE
TRE--



AAH-AAGGH!

FWOOF



D'AAHH-H-HHELP--!!

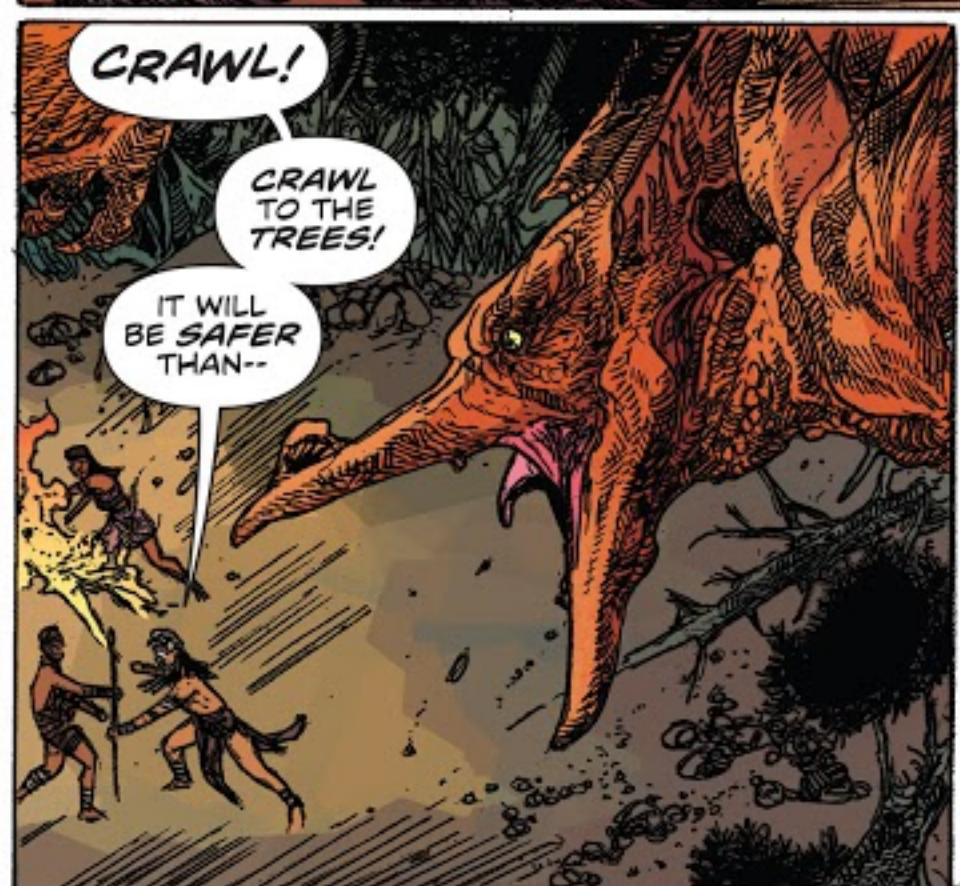


GODS...
WE--
WE HAVE
TO--

HELP-P-MEEE



NO!
EESA.
NOT
WITH THOSE
DEMONS
OUT THERE!

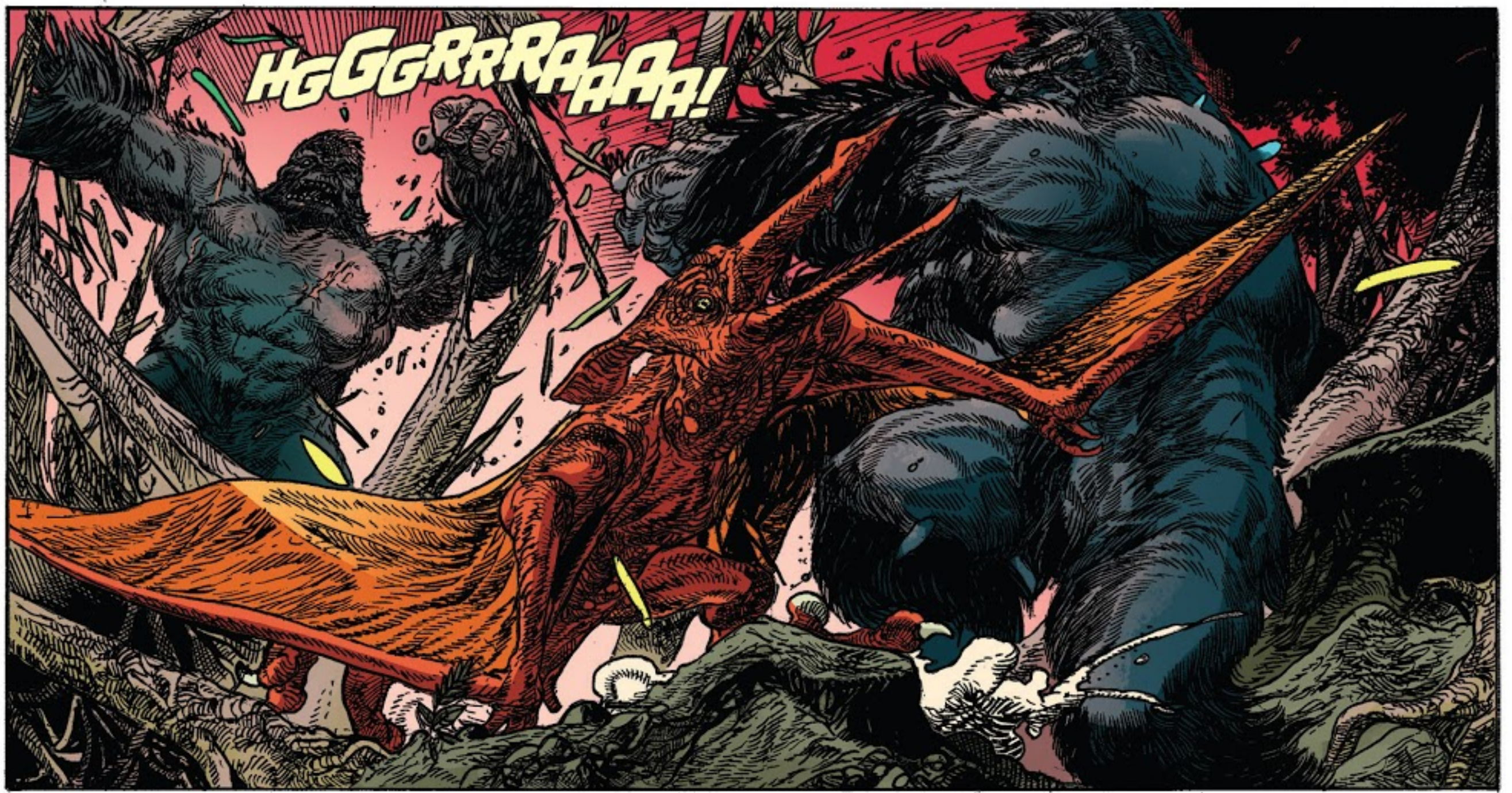


CRAWL!

CRAWL TO THE
TREES!

IT WILL
BE SAFER
THAN--







AH-TSSS-
AHH--!

HE CAN MOVE.
IF THERE ARE NO
MORE SURPRISE
ARRIVALS WE
NEED TO RUN--!

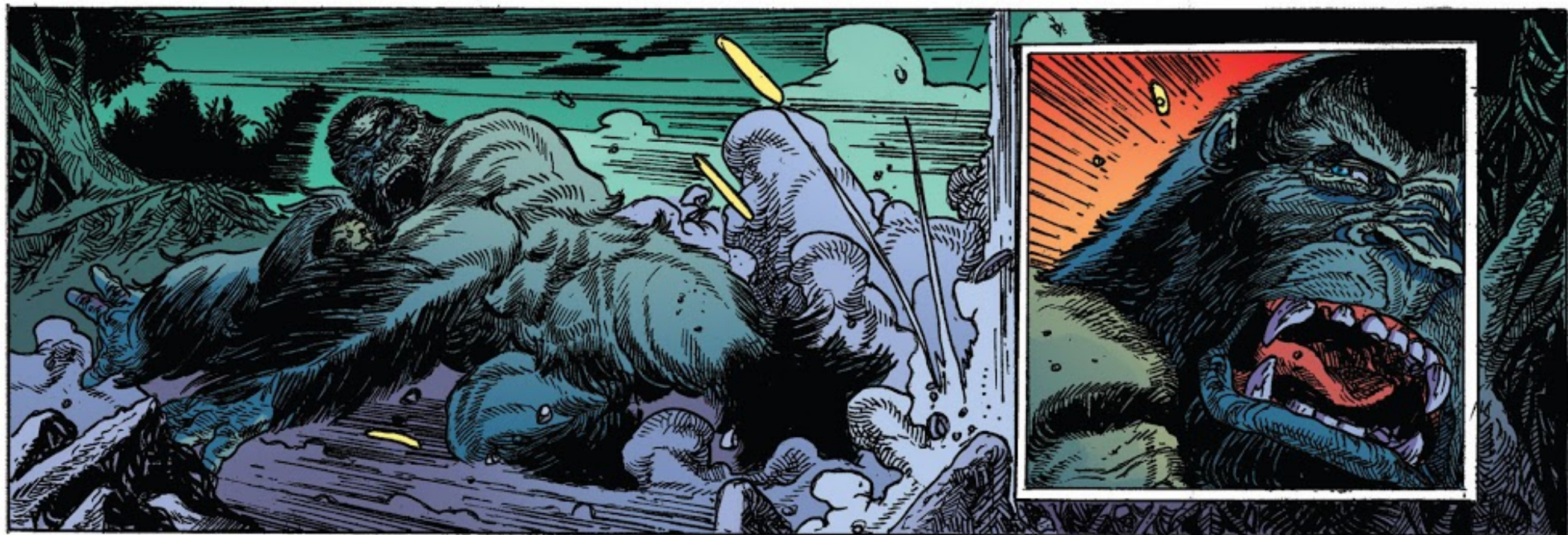
NO.
LOOK
AT THIS!

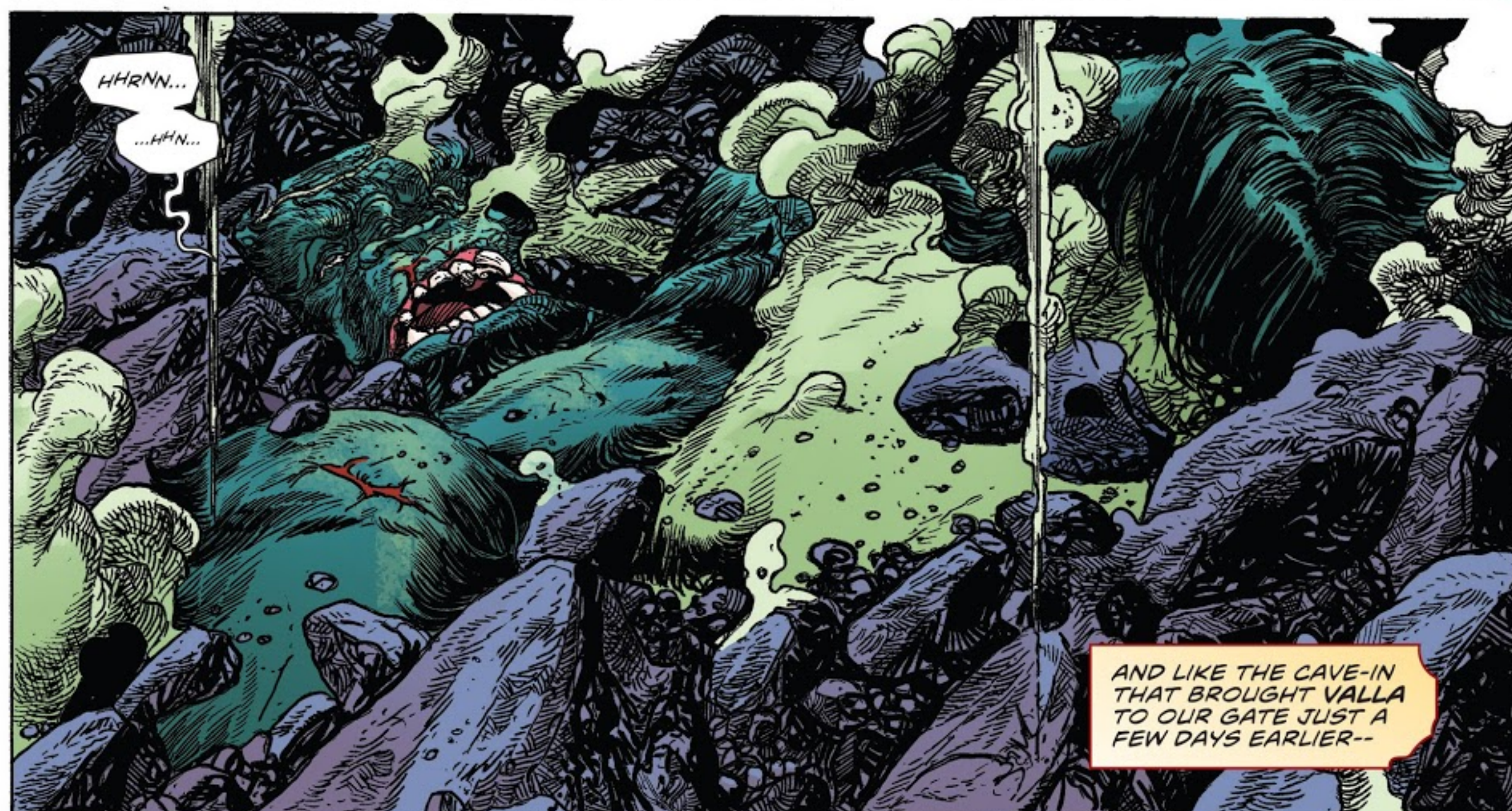














--THE EXILED KONG CAME ONLY TO DELIVER SOMEONE ELSE TO SAFETY BEHIND OUR WALL.



EVEN WITH YEARS APART, EWATA STILL KNEW THE KONG SHE RAISED WELL ENOUGH TO ROUGHLY UNDERSTAND HER STORY.



THOUGH, KNOWING QUEEN EWATA AS I DO--I SUSPECT IT WAS NOT WORDS THAT PERSUADED HER.



I FEEL COMPELLED TO WARN YOU, COUSIN--THERE ARE MANY AMONG OUR PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT HAPPY YOU VISIT WITH OUR EXILE.

THIS WAS...A UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE. IT WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.

AND YOU MAY RELAY THAT PROMISE IN YOUR RECORDS.



I DID ECHO HER WORDS TO ME HERE IN MY ACCOUNTS AS STORYTELLER.

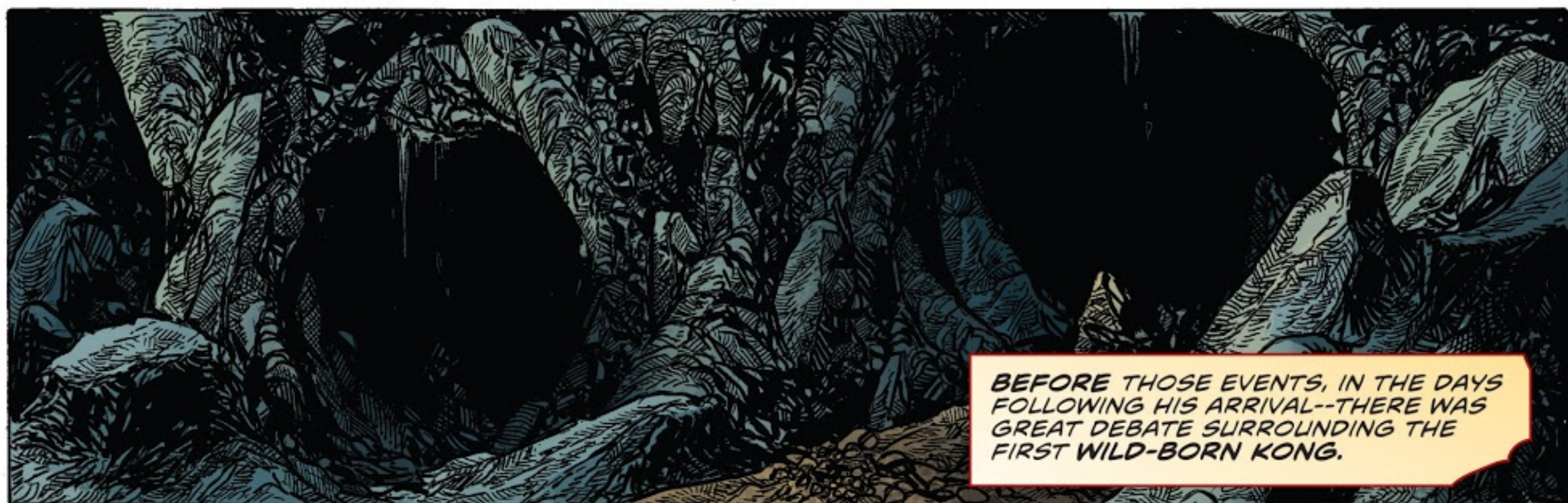
THE PRINCESS HAS HER MOTHER'S... FONDNESS FOR BEASTS.

A WARY MAN MIGHT FEAR THE DAY WE ARE RULED BY QUEEN K'VANNI--AND A KONG AS HER KING...

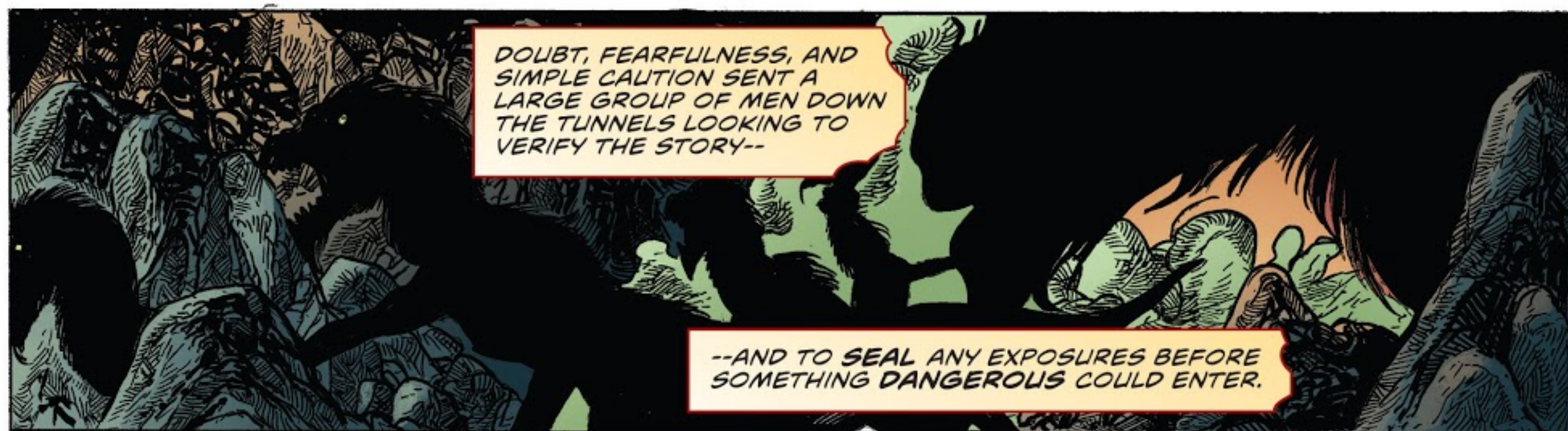
JUST AS THE NEXT HISTORY WILL RECOUNT THE BETRAYALS THAT LEAD QUEEN EWATA TO BREAK THAT VOW--



--AND ABANDON
HER THRONE FOR
GOOD.



BEFORE THOSE EVENTS, IN THE DAYS
FOLLOWING HIS ARRIVAL--THERE WAS
GREAT DEBATE SURROUNDING THE
FIRST WILD-BORN KONG.



DOUBT, FEARFULNESS, AND
SIMPLE CAUTION SENT A
LARGE GROUP OF MEN DOWN
THE TUNNELS LOOKING TO
VERIFY THE STORY--

--AND TO SEAL ANY EXPOSURES BEFORE
SOMETHING DANGEROUS COULD ENTER.



THE MEN DID FIND A
SECOND COLLAPSE SITE,
BUT, WHEN THEY DID--

--THERE WAS NOTHING
LEFT BUT RUBBLE,
SOME BLOOD--

--AND A LINGERING SENSE
THAT WE WILL NEVER TRULY
UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENS
BEYOND OUR WALL.



TO BE CONTINUED...

KONG

OF SKULL ISLAND

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
JEREMY LAWSON

NO. 9
BOOM!
STUDIOS









THE DEMON...
YOUR GRACE, IT
FOUND ITS WAY
THROUGH THE
MINING TUNNELS
TO OUR GATE,
AND--

AND THE KONG
ARE TRAINED TO
CRUSH ANY SUCH
THREATS. THAT IS
WHY THEY RESIDE
ON THIS END OF
OUR SHORE.



YET--YOUR
PRECIOUS
KONG WERE
NOT HERE...
MY QUEEN.

AMONG US ARE
MEMBERS OF YOUR
ROYAL COUNCIL--ARE
YOU SAYING THAT
POSITION COMES
WITH NO TRUE
AUTHORITY IN YOUR
ABSENCE?

WE WOULD BE
PARALYZED THE
NEXT TIME A
DEMON STEALS
OFF WITH YOUR--



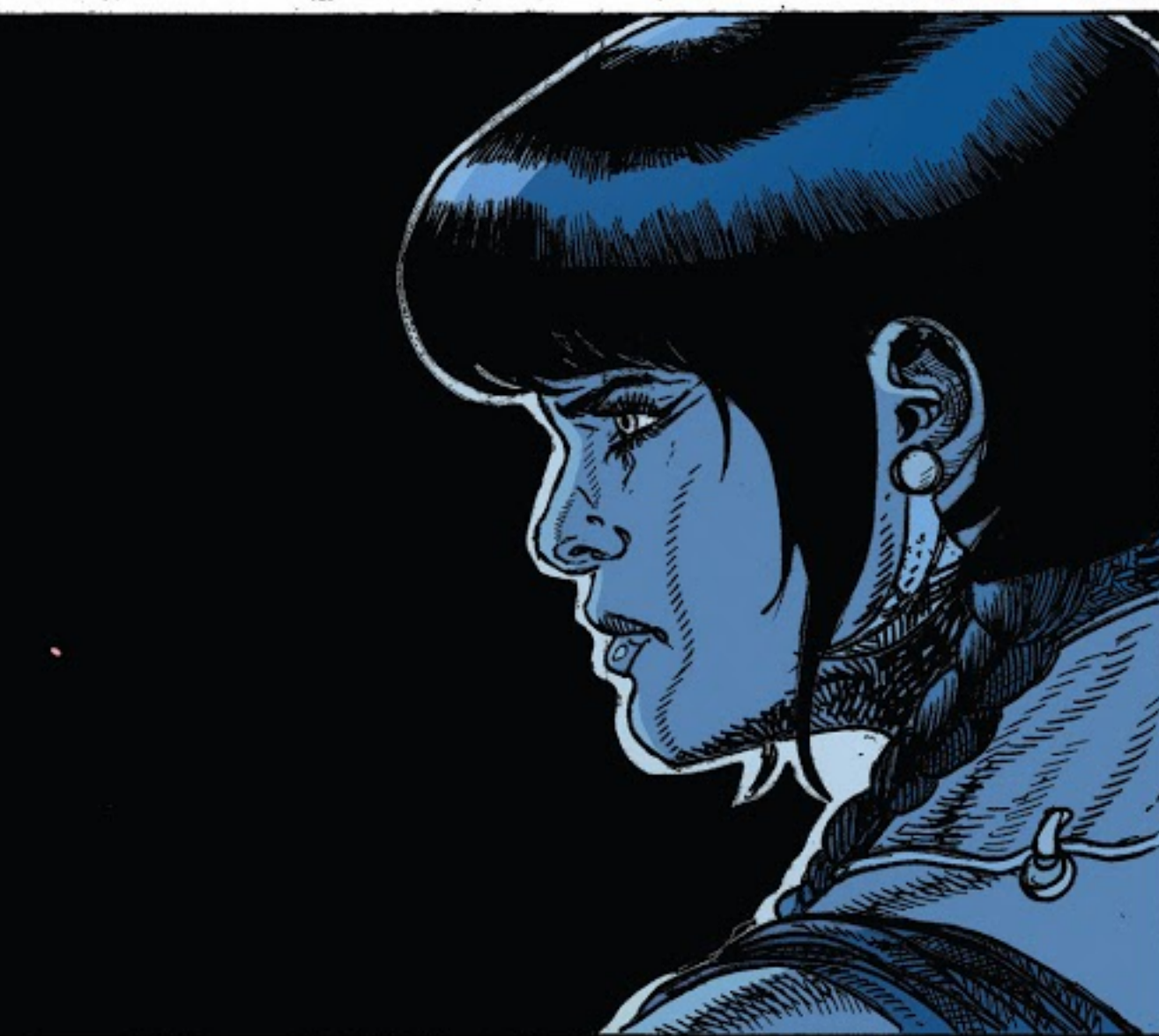
YES. MY DAUGHTER
DOES NOT NEED TO BE
REMIND OF HER
EXPERIENCE...

BUT THAT
IS PRECISELY WHY
WE HAVE THE GATE OF
ORE--AND WHY YOU WAIT
UNTIL A KONG RETURNS
TO HANDLE THOSE
CREATURES.



MANY OF US
HAVE SUFFERED
AT THE JAWS OF
DEMONS.

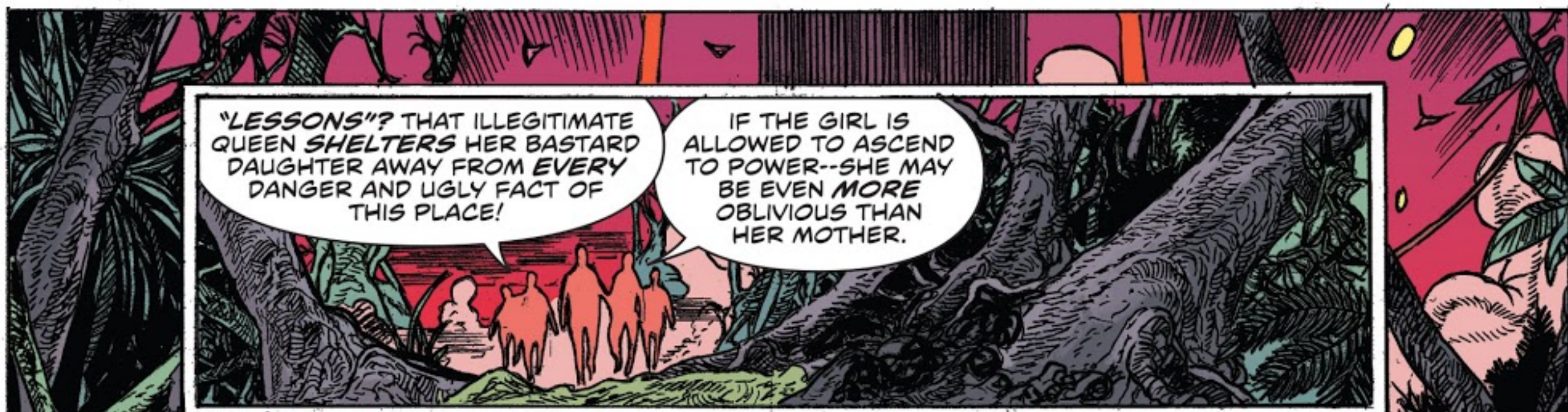
AND THERE
IS MORE THAN
ONE LESSON TO BE
LEARNED FROM THE
EXPERIENCE.







--K'VANNI NEEDS TO RETURN TO HER LESSONS.

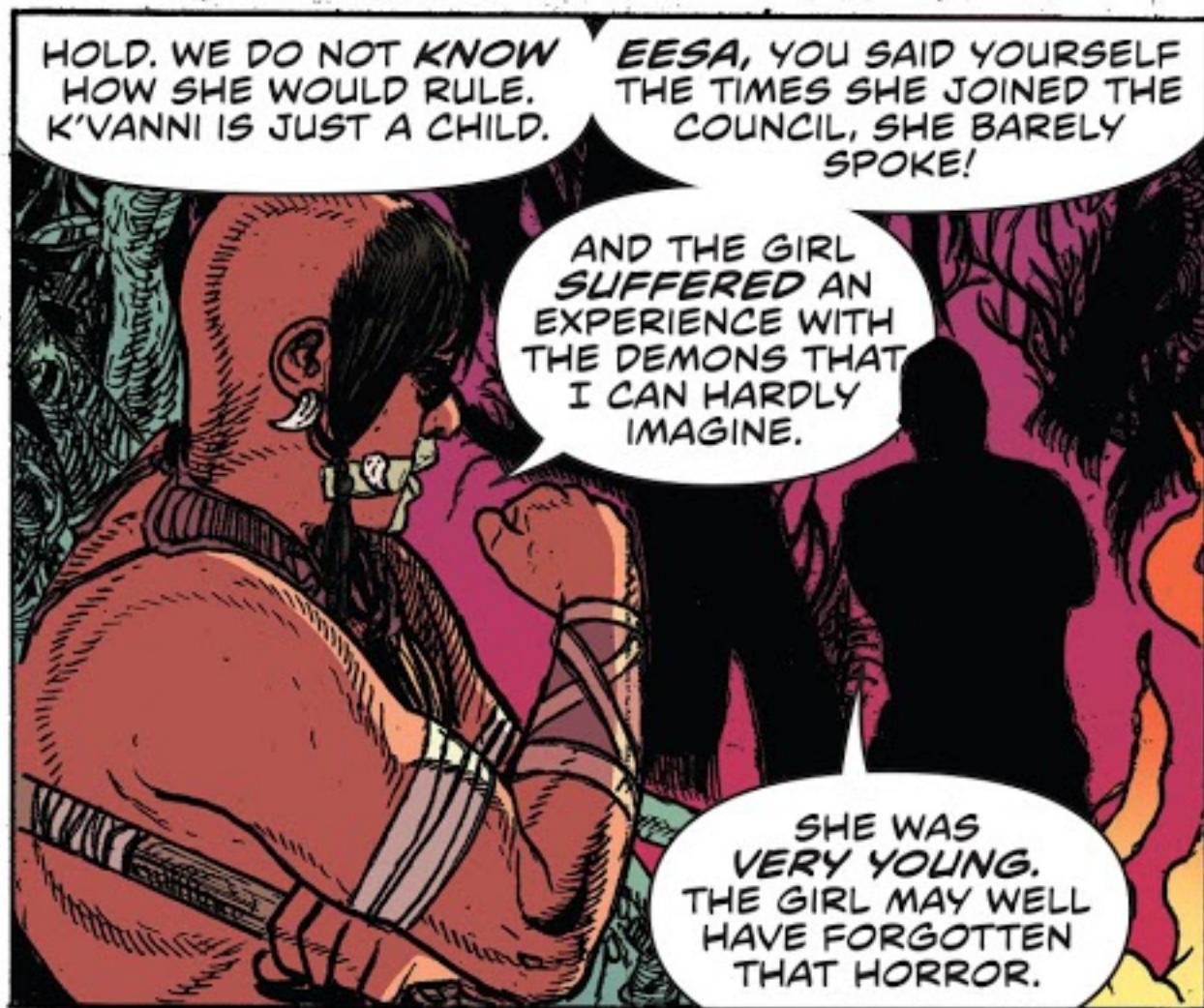


"LESSONS"? THAT ILLEGITIMATE QUEEN **SHELTERS** HER BASTARD DAUGHTER AWAY FROM **EVERY** DANGER AND UGLY FACT OF THIS PLACE!

IF THE GIRL IS ALLOWED TO ASCEND TO POWER--SHE MAY BE EVEN **MORE** OBVIOUS THAN HER MOTHER.



WE MUST FACE THE TRUTH THAT WE ALONE CAN SAVE OUR PEOPLE.



HOLD. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW SHE WOULD RULE. K'VANNI IS JUST A CHILD.

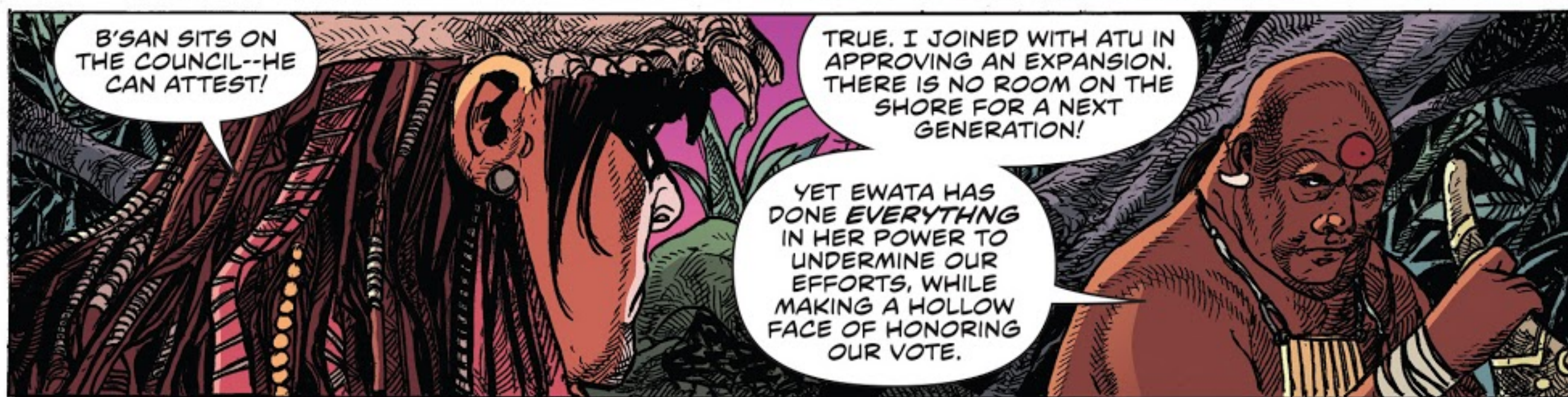
EESA, YOU SAID YOURSELF THE TIMES SHE JOINED THE COUNCIL, SHE BARELY SPOKE!

AND THE GIRL **SUFFERED** AN EXPERIENCE WITH THE DEMONS THAT I CAN HARDLY IMAGINE.

SHE WAS **VERY YOUNG**. THE GIRL MAY WELL HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT HORROR.



THEN PERHAPS WE NEED TO **REMIN**D HER.





OUR KONG?! THAT--THAT WOULD BE SUICIDE!

NO. THE HEART OF THE CITADEL IS COMPLETE. WE ARE FORTIFIED AGAINST THE DEMON LIZARDS--WE CAN DEFEND THIS PLACE!

STRIKE FROM SAFETY!

WE HAVE WEAPONS. ARMOR.



HOW...?

ALLIES TO OUR CAUSE HAVE BEEN SIPHONING ORE FROM THE MINING HAULS.

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO FINISH EVEN THIS MUCH OF THE CITADEL.

WE HAVE ALREADY FOUGHT OFF--KILLED--MORE DEMONS THAN THE KONG CAN CLAIM.



ALL THE EASIER TO CLEAR THE ISLAND WITH THE APES!

YANO, WE BROUGHT YOU HERE BECAUSE YOU BELIEVED OUR PEOPLE ARE STRANGLING ON THE SHORE.

EWATA, STUBBORNLY, DOES NOT. AND AS THE ONLY ONE IN CONTROL OF THE KONG, SHE CAN CRUSH ANY OPPOSITION WITH THE WAVE OF HER HAND.



EWATA CREATED A COUNCIL TO FEIGN THAT THE PEOPLE HAVE A VOICE.

BUT AS LONG AS THE THREAT OF KONG CAN SILENCE US--SHE IS NOTHING MORE THAN A SMILING TYRANT.



NO...

NONE OF YOU WERE THERE ON THE FIRST SHIP THAT SAILED HERE--CRASHED AND...

EWATA SAVED US. SHE BROUGHT HER KONG TO SAVE OUR LIVES!

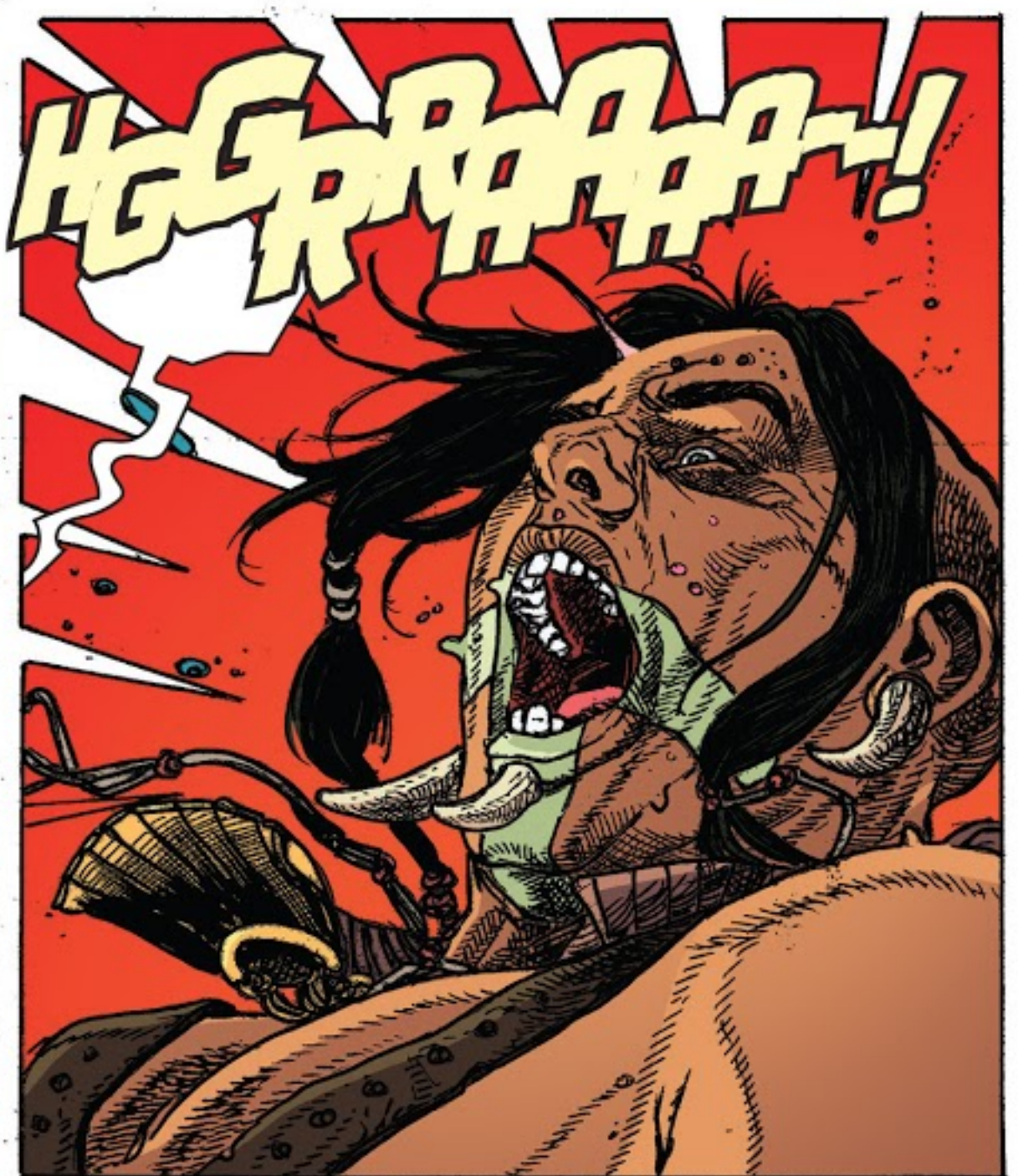


YANO, WAIT--

NO. IF WE TRY TO FORCE HIM, WE ARE NO BETTER THAN EWATA.

YOU CAN GO. HERE, WARDING SCENTS TO PROTECT YOU ON THE WALK BACK.

TH--THANK YOU.





I PRAY
IT TOOK A MOST
REMARKABLE
BOOK, GRET--



--IF IT KEPT YOU
SO ENGROSSED,
YOU FORGOT TO
WAKE ME FROM
MY SLEEP.

EWATA,
LOVE. I...I WAS
SUPPOSED TO
WAKE YOU AT
DAWN. MY
APOLOGIES. I
LOST SENSE
OF TIME.

SO, WHAT
BOOK--?



AH...
I...

ARE
THESE YOUR
TRAINER
RECORDS?

BECOMING
THE...CLOSEST
ADVISER TO
THE QUEEN HAS
GROWN SO
TIRESOME YOU
LONG TO PROD
KONG INTO THE
FIGHTING
PIT?!



ONE OF
THE OTHER
COUNCIL
ASKED FOR
MY NOTES.

I...
ADMIT I LOST
MYSELF IN THE
PAGES. AFTER
YEARS AWAY
FROM IT...



...I MISS THE
CHEERING, THE
JOY OF VICTORY
MORE AND
MORE.

YOU MISS
BEING THE ONE
TO SHOUT
ORDERS.

IN THAT
SENSE, YOU MAY
HAVE WON THOSE
BATTLES, BUT I
WON OUT IN THE
END!



YOU SHOULD NOT
JOKE ABOUT YOUR
POSITION LIKE THAT,
EWATA.

WHAT?!

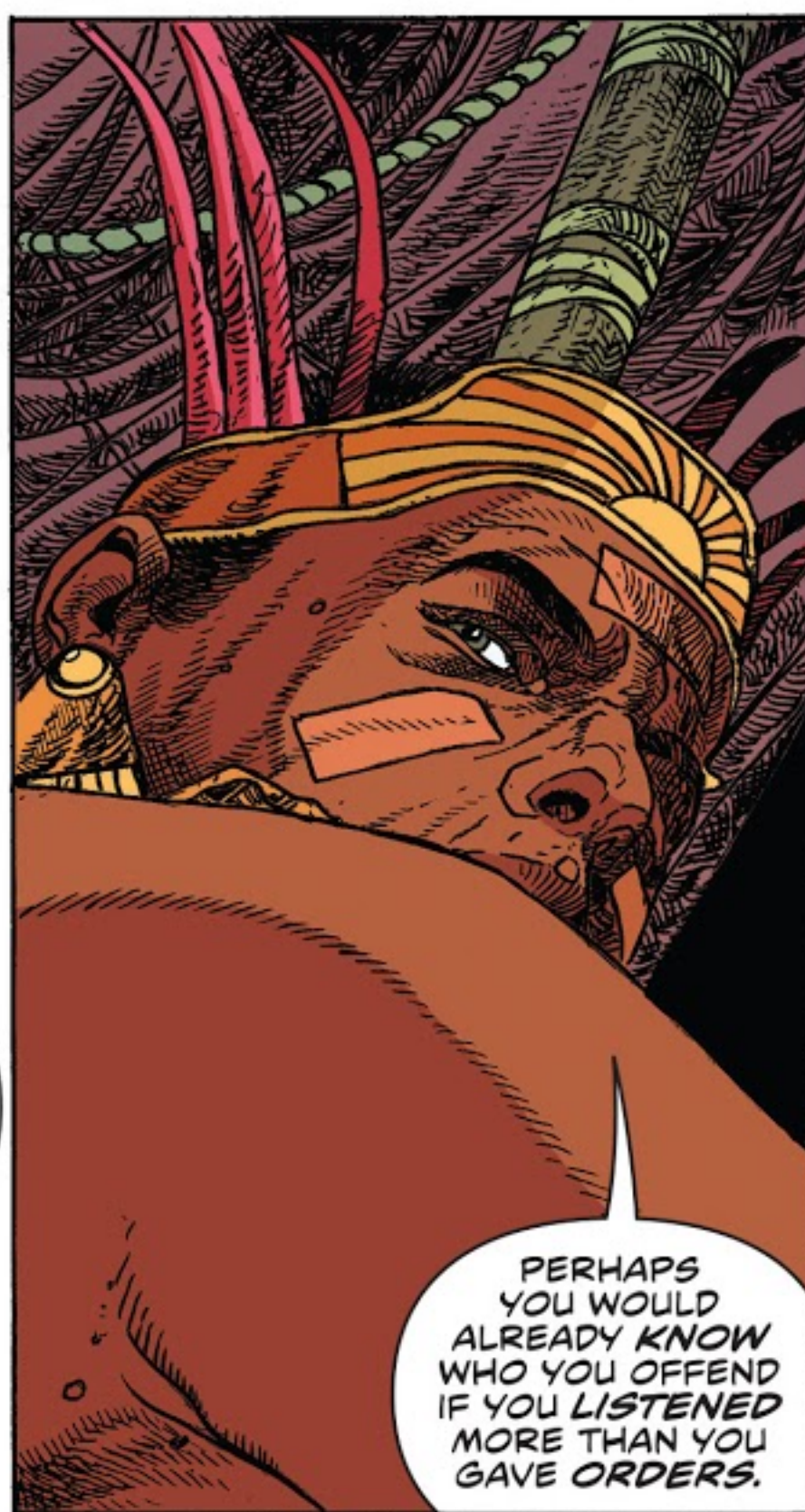
IT UPSETS
PEOPLE WHEN
YOU WIELD
THE CROWN
SO...SO...



FORGET
MY WORDS.
I HAVE A
SLEEPLESS
TONGUE.

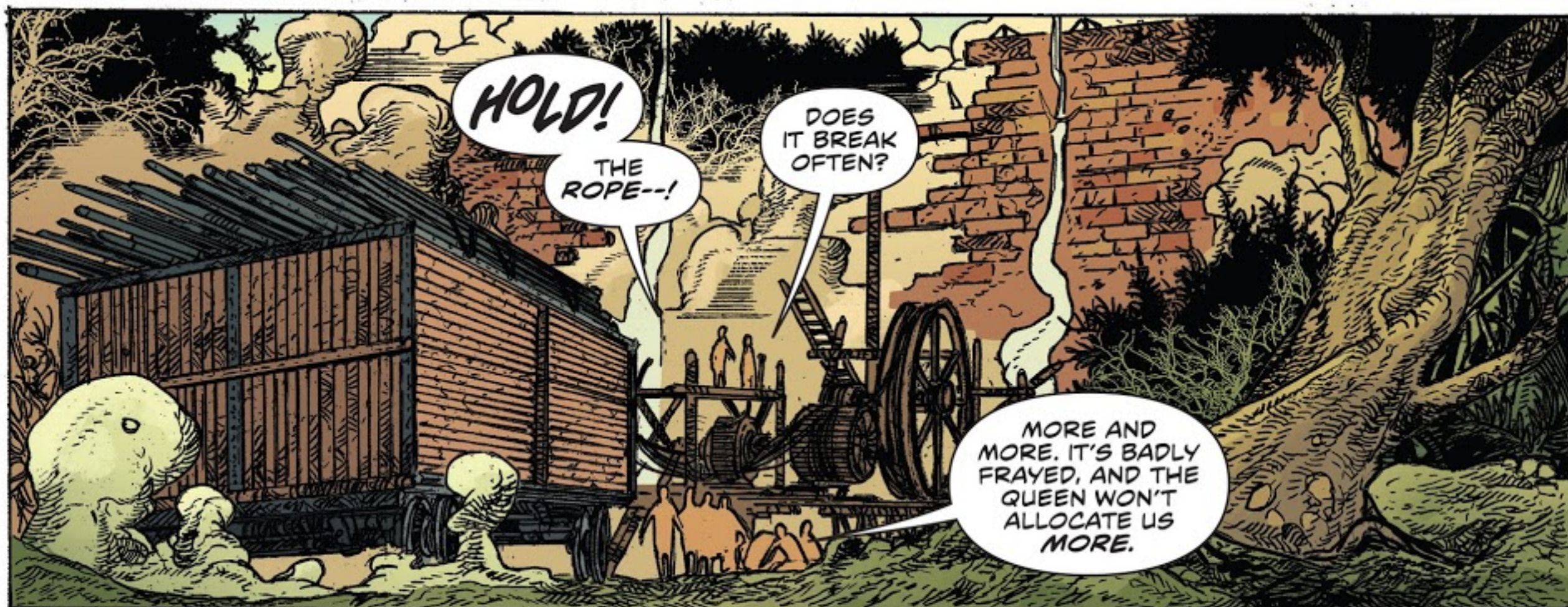
NO!
FINISH. AND
TELL ME
WHICH
PEOPLE I
OFFEND--

--THE
UNNAMED
COUNCIL
PERSON YOU
SPENT THE
NIGHT
SERVING?!



PERHAPS
YOU WOULD
ALREADY KNOW
WHO YOU OFFEND
IF YOU LISTENED
MORE THAN YOU
GAVE ORDERS.









HHRNPH

SKPLF...



VALLA!
IT IS
YOU?

I--GRET.
REMEMBER?
ATU? FROM
THE PIT--?



SK
KRAK

I...I CAME TO HELP
OUR PEOPLE. THE
ONE BUILDING.

THEY...
SAID THEY'VE
FOUND DEAD
DEMONS.

THAT
WAS YOU
WASN'T IT?
YOU
PROTECT
THEM?



HRMPF

VALLA!
WAIT!

I...SEE IT.
I WONDERED
HOW THEY EVEN
SURVIVED--WHILE
THEY WORKED--SO
EXPOSED OUT
HERE? BUT YOU
PROTECTED
THEM!



EVEN
AFTER YOU
WERE
EXILED...



HHFKFF



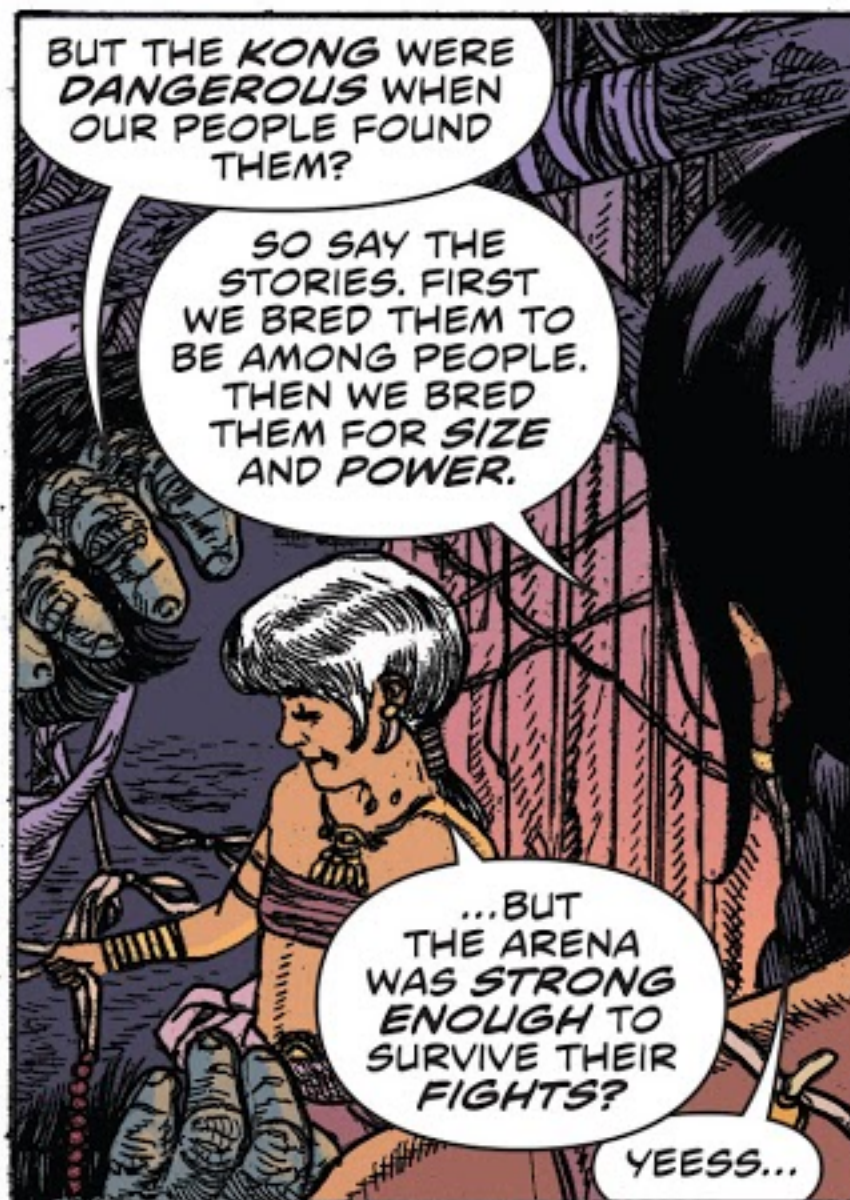
HOW WERE TODAY'S HISTORIES WITH OUR BELOVED STORYTELLER?

BORING. THE WHOLE DAY WAS ABOUT HOW OUR ANCESTORS BUILT THE FIRST KONG ARENA.



I NEVER HAD A MIND FOR BUILDING.

BUT I ALWAYS FELT PROUD OUR PEOPLE WERE ABLE TO CONSTRUCT A TEMPLE AS STRONG AND GRAND AS THE KONG OUR BREEDERS RAISED.



BUT THE KONG WERE DANGEROUS WHEN OUR PEOPLE FOUND THEM?

SO SAY THE STORIES. FIRST WE BRED THEM TO BE AMONG PEOPLE. THEN WE BRED THEM FOR SIZE AND POWER.

...BUT THE ARENA WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO SURVIVE THEIR FIGHTS?

YEESS...



THEN WHY CAN'T OUR PEOPLE BUILD THE CITADEL IN THE ISLAND?

IF WE COULD CONTAIN THE KONG--

THESE DEMONS ARE NOT LIKE THE KONG!



MAYBE NOT NOW! BUT OUR PEOPLE TAMED THE KONG!

WHY CAN'T WE DO THE SAME WITH THE--



BECAUSE
NOW I
KNOW.

PEOPLE
CANNOT
TAME
NATURE.

WE CAN ONLY
HOPE TO CIVILIZE
OURSELVES.



AND IF YOU GO
OUT THERE--IF
YOU EVEN STEP
INTO THEIR
FIGHT--

--YOU WILL
NEVER BE ABLE
TO BRING
THEM UP.

BUT
THEY CAN
TEAR YOU
DOWN.



MAYBE...

...OR
MAYBE YOU
NEVER FOUND
A WAY.

BUT
MAYBE I
CAN?!

I AM THE
ONE WHO HAS
TO LEAD. I AM
ROYAL BLOOD.
HEIR OF THE
GODS--!

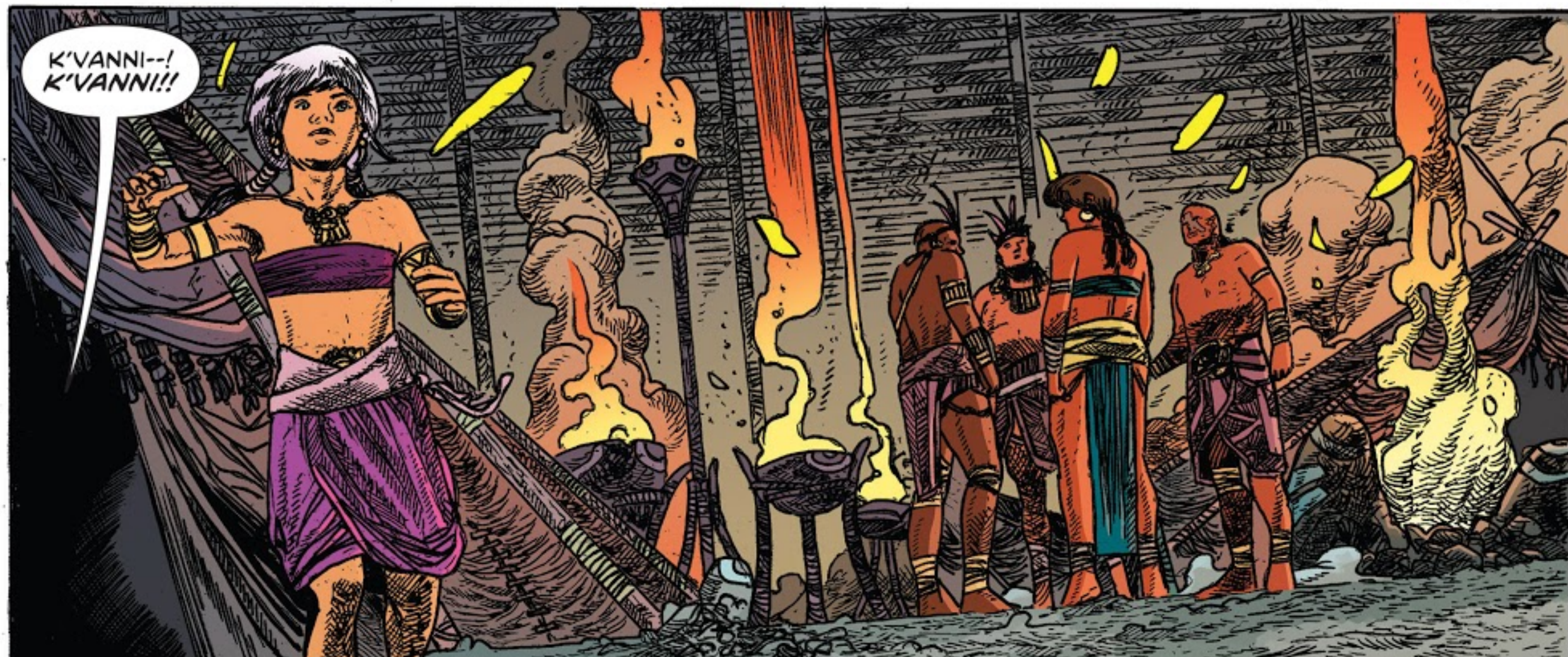


YOU
ARE A
CHILD!

AND THERE
ARE DANGERS
WAITING FOR YOU
THAT YOU KNOW
NOTHING
ABOUT!!



HR'NGAAA!



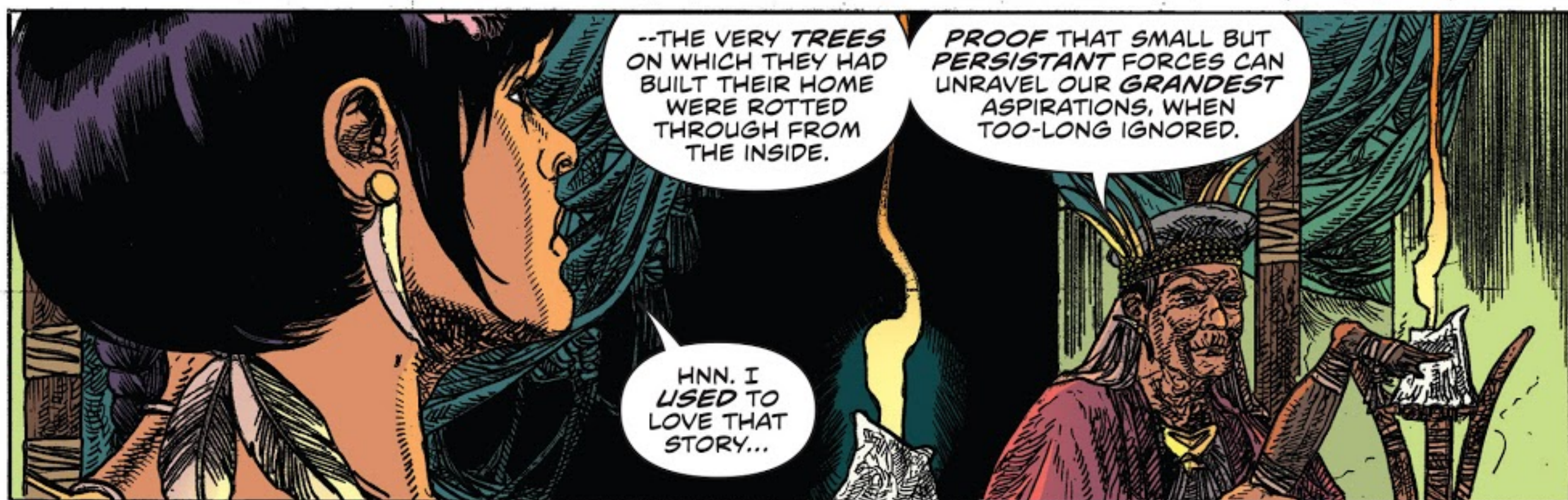


BY ALL ACCOUNTS, THE FAMILY HAD SPENT **TWO ENTIRE SEASONS** BUILDING THEIR NEW REFUGE IN THE TREE TOPS.

BUT WITHIN **MOMENTS** OF MOVING BED AND BODY INTO THE FINISHED HOME--

--THE **ENTIRE WOODS** COLLAPSED BENEATH THEM!

AFTER NURSING INJURED LIMBS AND PRIDE, THEY THEN SAW CLEARLY WHAT NONE HAD CONSIDERED AT THE START--



--THE VERY **TREES** ON WHICH THEY HAD BUILT THEIR HOME WERE ROTTED THROUGH FROM THE INSIDE.

PROOF THAT SMALL BUT **PERSISTANT** FORCES CAN UNRAVEL OUR **GRANDEST** ASPIRATIONS, WHEN TOO-LONG IGNORED.

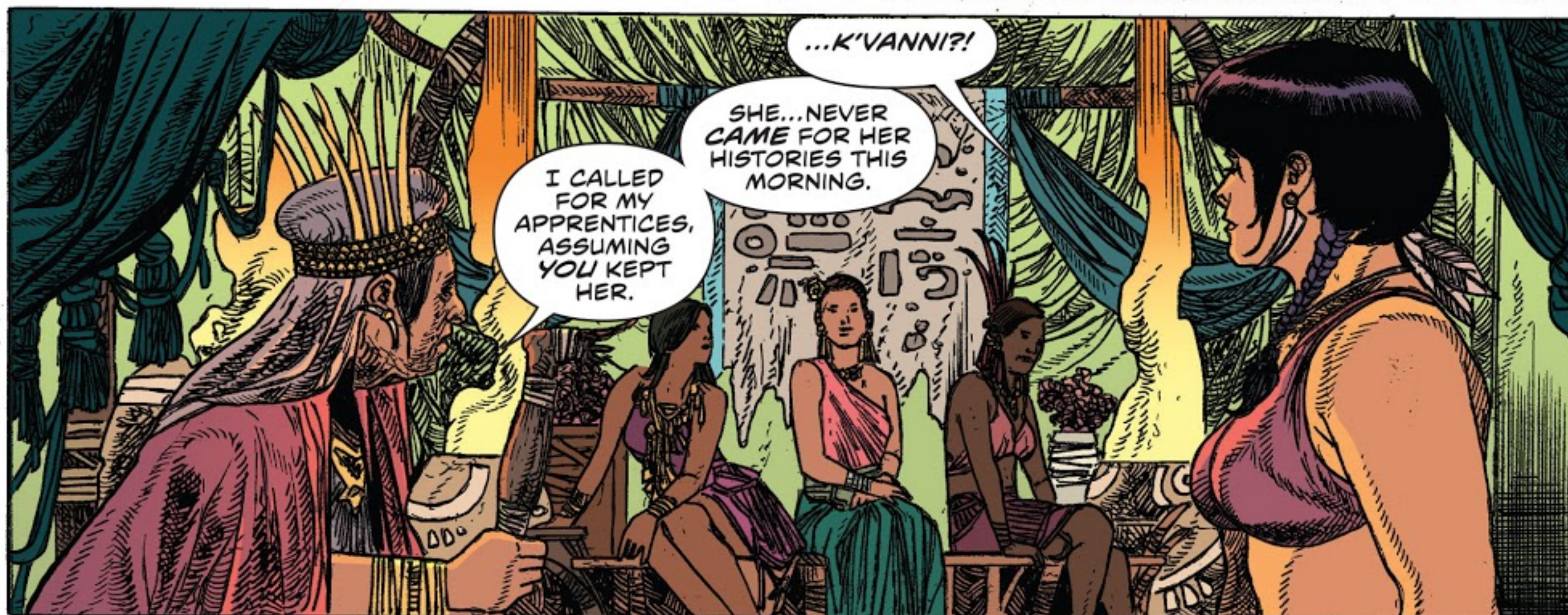
HNN. I **USED** TO LOVE THAT STORY...



AH. A VISIT FROM THE **QUEEN**? TO WHAT DO WE OWE THE PLEASURE?

BLESSED MORNING, STORYTELLER. BUT THIS IS NO FORMAL OCCASION.

I COME AS A **MOTHER** WHO NEEDS TO APOLOGIZE TO HER...



...K'VANNI?!

SHE...NEVER CAME FOR HER HISTORIES THIS MORNING.

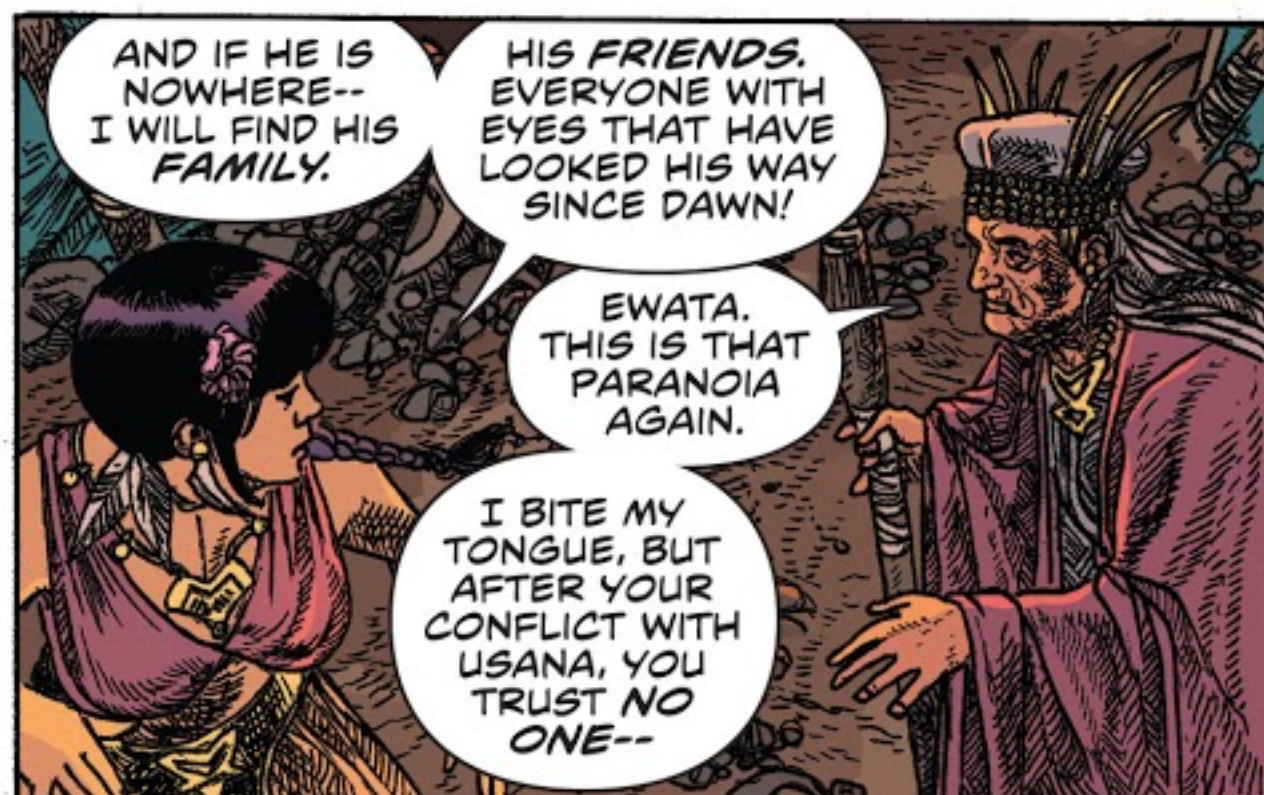
I CALLED FOR MY APPRENTICES, ASSUMING YOU KEPT HER.





I HAVE LEARNED
TO FEAR THAT
LOOK ON YOUR
FACE. WHERE ARE
YOU OFF TO?

TO FIND
AGUUL.



AND IF HE IS
NOWHERE--
I WILL FIND HIS
FAMILY.

HIS FRIENDS.
EVERYONE WITH
EYES THAT HAVE
LOOKED HIS WAY
SINCE DAWN!

EWATA.
THIS IS THAT
PARANOIA
AGAIN.

I BITE MY
TONGUE, BUT
AFTER YOUR
CONFLICT WITH
USANA, YOU
TRUST NO
ONE--



I KNOW
HE HAS BEEN
TRYING TO
POISON THE
COUNCIL
AGAINST
ME.

AND THAT HE'S
CLOSE ENOUGH
TO WHATEVER HE
INTENDS FOR HIS
SPITE TO GROW
NAKED.



BUT
I NEVER
THOUGHT
HE'D...

WE DON'T
KNOW THAT
HE HAS.

AND YOU ARE
QUEEN. YOU
CANNOT ACT
RASHLY!



SNFF

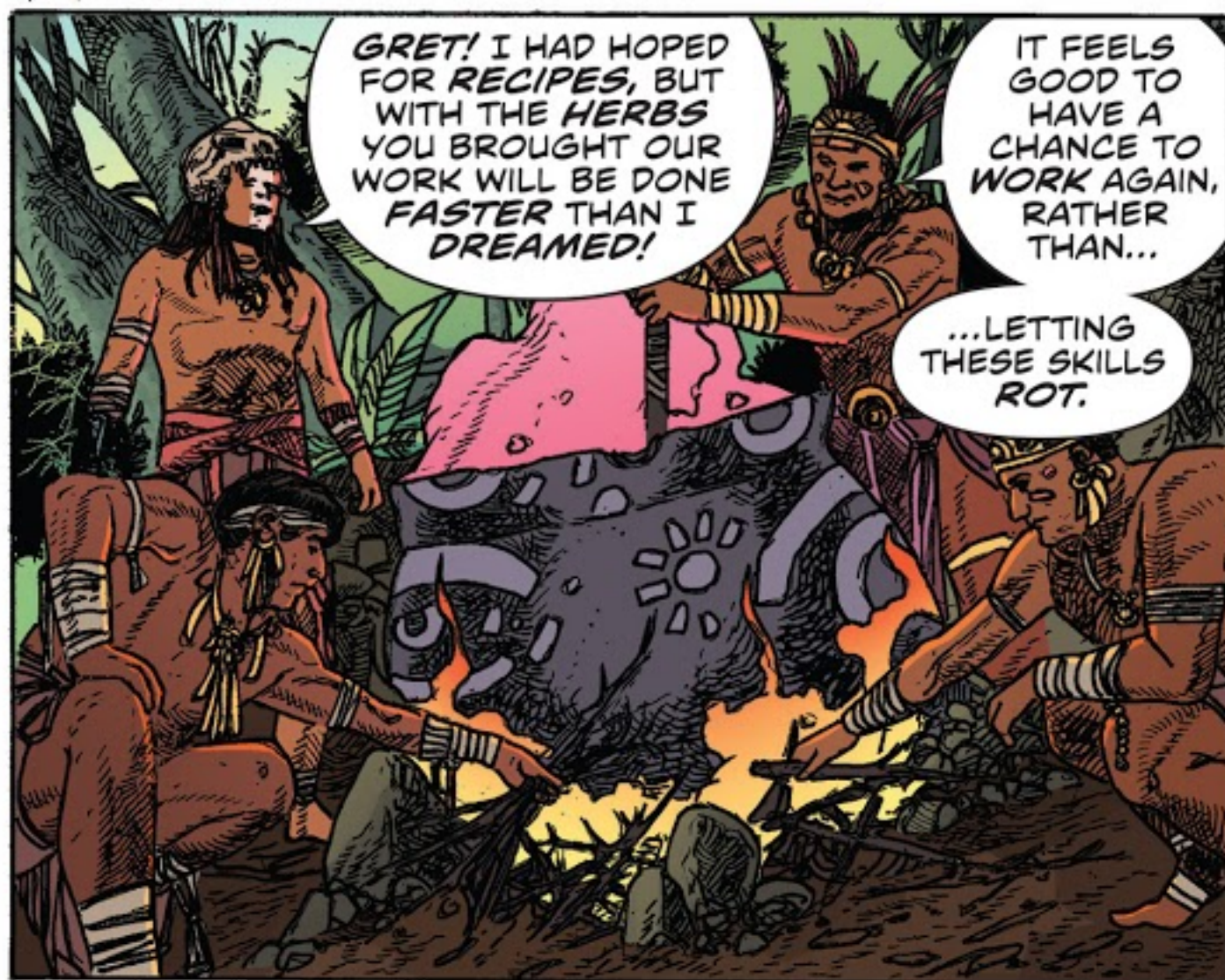
YOU ARE
RIGHT...

BUT I CAN
GO TO GRET
TO LEARN
WHAT HE
KNOWS.

AND
IF THEY
HAVE DONE
ANYTHING
TO HER--



--I
CAN KILL
THEM.



GRET! I HAD HOPED FOR RECIPES, BUT WITH THE HERBS YOU BROUGHT OUR WORK WILL BE DONE FASTER THAN I DREAMED!

IT FEELS GOOD TO HAVE A CHANCE TO WORK AGAIN, RATHER THAN...

...LETTING THESE SKILLS ROT.



I SEE WHY THE GREAT SHAMAN TRUSTED YOU.

AND NOW WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BRING HIS VISION TO LIFE.



AGUUL! THE GODS BRING YOU AT THE IDEAL MOMENT!

YOUR WISDOM, PLEASE--?



FOR THE ALTAR.

ROPE? OR CHAINS?

ROPE IS TRADITIONAL. BUT MAKE IT THICK.

NOT EVERYONE ACCEPTS THE SACRIFICES OUR GODS DEMAND.



AND NOT ALL WHO FIND THEMSELVES ON THE ALTAR WILL BE THERE WILLINGLY.

AGUUL? OUR GUEST HAS ARRIVED--



**--PRINCESS
K'VANNI
HERSELF!**

YOUR GRACE!
WELCOME!

AS THE
GODS WOULD
HAVE IT, I WAS
JUST SPEAKING
OF YOU...

TO BE CONTINUED...

KONG

OF SKULL ISLAND™

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
JEREMY LAWSON

NO. 11

BOOM!
STUDIOS





"IF HISTORY WERE
DRAWN, IT COULD NOT
TRULY BE DONE AS A
STRAIGHT LINE."



YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND
YOURSELF, IN EXPLAINING
HOW A MOMENT AROSE,
NEEDING TO DOUBLE BACK
AND PICK UP A THREAD
THAT HAD SLIPPED
FROM FOCUS.



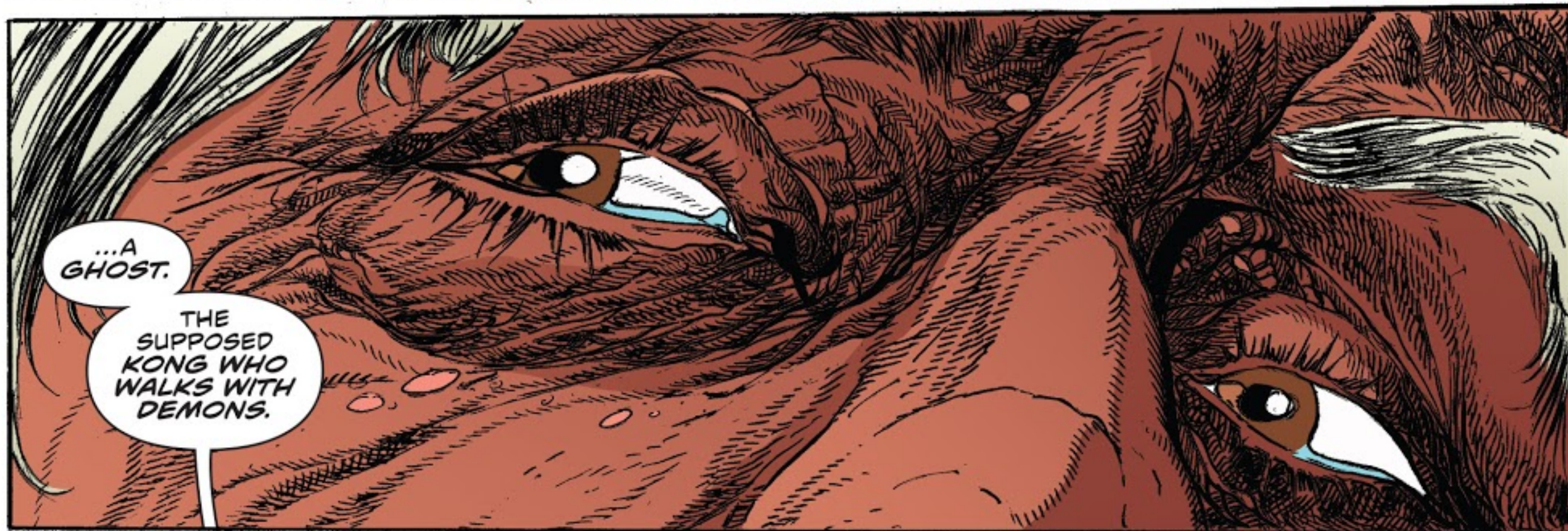
FOR THIS TEST, AS
YOU EACH DRAFT A
HISTORY OF PRINCESS
K'VANNI'S YOUNG
KONG...

...CONSIDER THE
STRANGE AND
STILL-UNCERTAIN
NATURE OF ITS
PARENTAGE.



WE HAVE
MANY REASONS
TO BELIEVE HE
WAS NOT A CHILD
OF VALLA, THE
EXILE.

WHICH LEAVES
US TO ASSUME
ITS MOTHER IS A
CREATURE OF
CONFLICTING MYTHS
AND FRAGMENTED
ACCOUNTS...




...A
GHOST.

THE
SUPPOSED
KONG WHO
WALKS WITH
DEMONS.




"IF WE BELIEVE THEIR ACCOUNTS, EWATA AND THE OTHERS FACED A DARK GOD AT THE HEART OF THIS ISLAND. THEY **SWORE** ITS FLOCK OF **DEMONS** COULD SPEAK, THINK, AND COORDINATE OFF ITS COMMANDS.

"...THAT IS, UNTIL OUR **KONG** PUT THE BEAST DOWN.




"IN THE YEARS SINCE, THE DEATHRUNNERS-- AS WE HAVE COME TO CALL THEM--STILL PROVE FAR MORE INTELLIGENT THAN THE OTHER DEMONS OF THIS ISLAND.

"BUT WHILE THEY TRAP, REND, AND **DEVOUR** OUR PEOPLE WHEN THEY CATCH US OFF-GUARD--



"--MORE THAN **ONCE**, THEY WOULD COME AND STAND AT THE FEET OF OUR **KONG**. AS IF THEY WERE AWAITING ORDERS FROM THEIR **NEW GODS**..."




"...BUT WHILE WE DROVE THEM OUT, MANY SWEAR THE DEATHRUNNERS FOUND A KONG TO FOLLOW BEYOND THE WALL."

"THE FERAL KONG. ONE OF A FEW WHO ESCAPED INTO THE ISLAND IN OUR EARLIEST DAYS HERE."



"AS VICIOUS AND TERRITORIAL AS ANY MONSTER IN THIS HELL."

"BUT THE SECRET TRUTH IS--IT ISN'T THE ISLAND THAT MADE IT THIS WAY..."



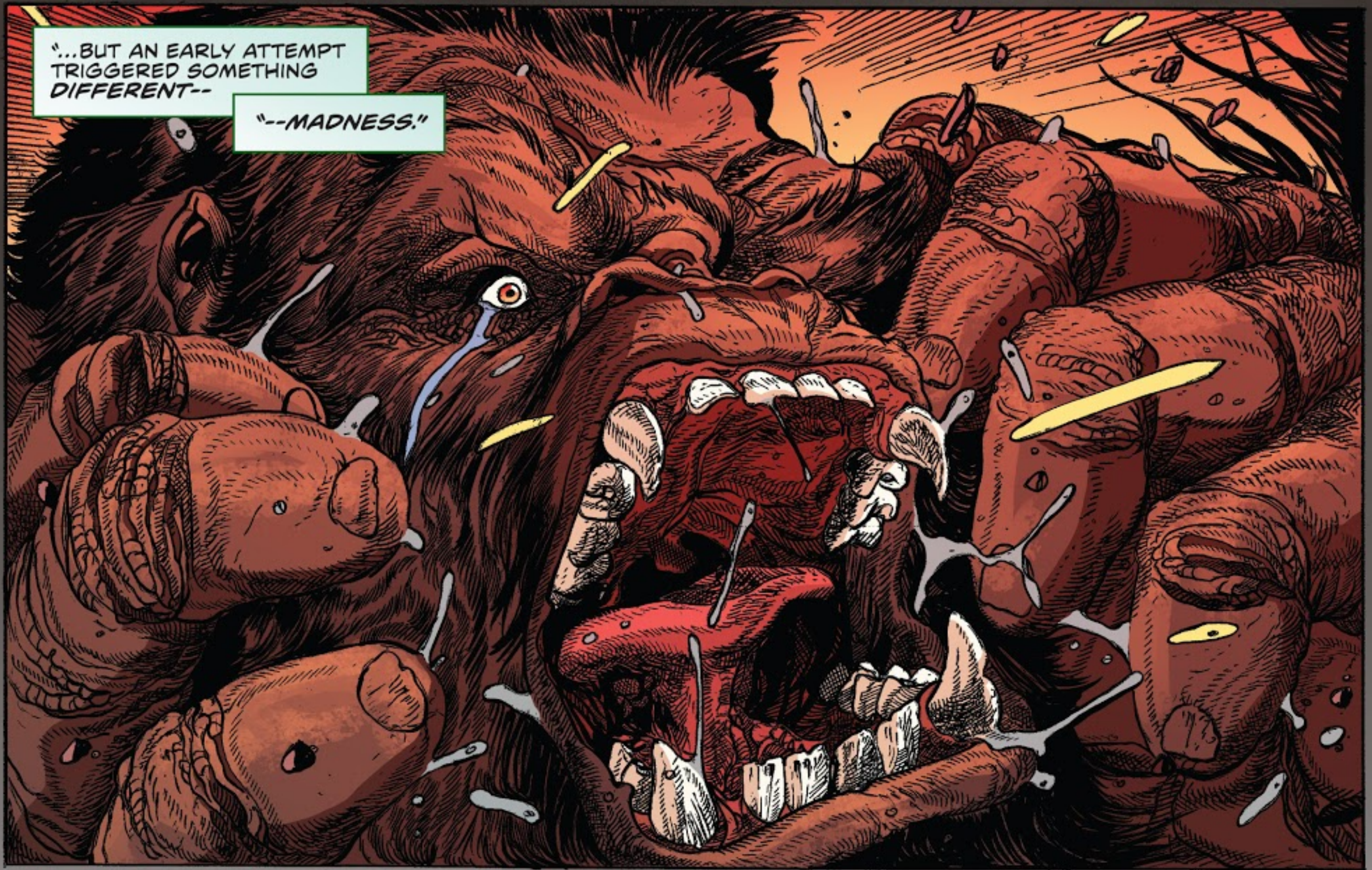
"...IT WAS US."



"WE KNEW THE SAVAGERY THE KONG WERE CAPABLE OF. WE'D SEEN HOW EASILY IT COULD BE TRIGGERED BY THE RIGHT SCENTS IN THE OLD FIGHTING PITS."

"YET EWATA NOW KEPT THEM AMONG US--AS IF THEY WERE OUR PROTECTION, AND NOT A SWORD DANGLING ABOVE OUR NECKS BY THE THINNEST STRAND."

"SO UTAL AND I SET OUT TO DEVELOP OUR OWN COMPOUND THAT MIGHT REMIND OUR PEOPLE OF THE KONG'S TRUE NATURE..."



"...BUT AN EARLY ATTEMPT
TRIGGERED SOMETHING
DIFFERENT--

"--MADNESS."



SO, IT WORKED--
WHY DIDN'T YOU USE
THE COMPOUND
THEN?

IN ITS RAGE, THE
GHOST CAUGHT
AND DEVOURED
MY NIECE.

EVEN IN OUR WORST
CONFLICTS, THERE'S NO
OTHER RECORD OF A
KONG CROSSING THAT
LINE. AND I WASN'T
ABOUT TO GIVE MORE
THINGS ON THIS
ISLAND A TASTE
FOR US.



THANK
YOU.

BUT I
BELIEVE,
B'SAN'S
POINT IS
THIS--



--DO
NOT. MAKE.
A SOUND.







--WHERE IS
K'VANNI?!

EWATA--
LOVE...?

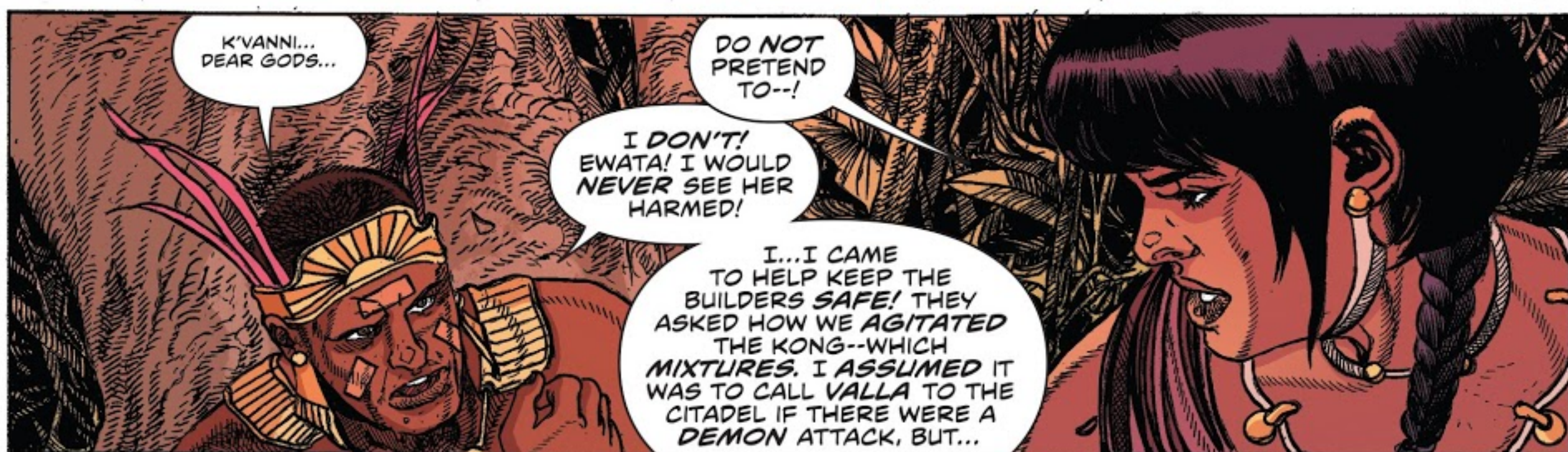
...W-WHAT IS
HAPPENING?!

YOU WERE
DELIRIOUS.
SHOUTING.
I BROUGHT
YOU OUT HERE
TO GIVE YOU
A SIMPLE
CHOICE--



YOU CAN
CONTINUE TO
SIDE WITH THAT
TREACHEROUS
CABAL--AND I WILL
LEAVE YOU FOR
THE DEMONS.

OR YOU
TELL ME WHERE AGULUL
HAS TAKEN MY DAUGHTER
AND WHAT--PRECISELY--
HE HAS PLANNED FOR HER.



K'VANNI...
DEAR GODS...

DO NOT
PRETEND
TO--!

I DON'T!
EWATA! I WOULD
NEVER SEE HER
HARMED!

I...I CAME
TO HELP KEEP THE
BUILDERS SAFE! THEY
ASKED HOW WE AGITATED
THE KONG--WHICH
MIXTURES. I ASSUMED IT
WAS TO CALL VALLA TO THE
CITADEL IF THERE WERE A
DEMON ATTACK, BUT...



...I WAS AN IDIOT.
THEY WERE...
PLANNING
SOMETHING.

PLANNING
WHAT?! YOU
WASTE MY
TIME WITH--

I DON'T
KNOW! I SAW...
MAPS. CAUGHT
THEM TESTING A
SCENT-TRIGGER. BUT
AS SOON AS I
DID--B'SAN TRIED
TO KILL ME!



WHEN
I CHOSE
YOU OVER
THEM.



GET UP.

YOU ARE GOING TO LEAD ME TO WHEREVER THEY MIGHT BE--

E-EWATA--!



--HRRRGHHH

VALLA?! KONG--?

NO...

KONG, WHERE IS K'VANNI?! YOU SHOULD BE BY HER--

EWATA! STAY BACK!

K'VANNI'S KONG--HE'S THE ONE THEY DRUGGED--



--AND HE SLAUGHTERED THEM!

HRRRGAAA!





HHRRA!
HMM!

NO!
VALLA--I
WAS NOT
THE ONE
WHO HURT
HIM!

HOLD!
ALL OF
YOU,
PLEASE!



VALLA. I KNOW I
AM IN NO POSITION
TO ASK FAVORS.

BUT I NEED
GRET AND
THERE IS NO
TIME TO--

HRMM!



HMM!
PFFF!

YES. HE WAS
DRUGGED.

BY
BAD MEN.
MEN WHO ARE
TRYING TO
HURT US,
TOO.



B'SAN. AND
THE OTHERS. I
TRIED TO STOP
THEM!

BUT WHATEVER
MIXTURE THEY
CREATED IS MUCH
STRONGER. THIS
ONE WAS MORE
CRAZED THAN
ANYTHING WE
TRIGGERED IN THE
OLD ARENA
FIGHTS.



THE EFFECTS... SEEM TO HAVE PASSED. VALLA DID YOU--?



GRRA
AHHWA-WA



YOU WERE LUCKY TO FIND VALLA. THAT SHE KNEW TO WASH OFF THE SCENTS.

BUT IF YOU CAN...

...I THINK I NEED YOUR HELP TO SAVE K'VANNI.



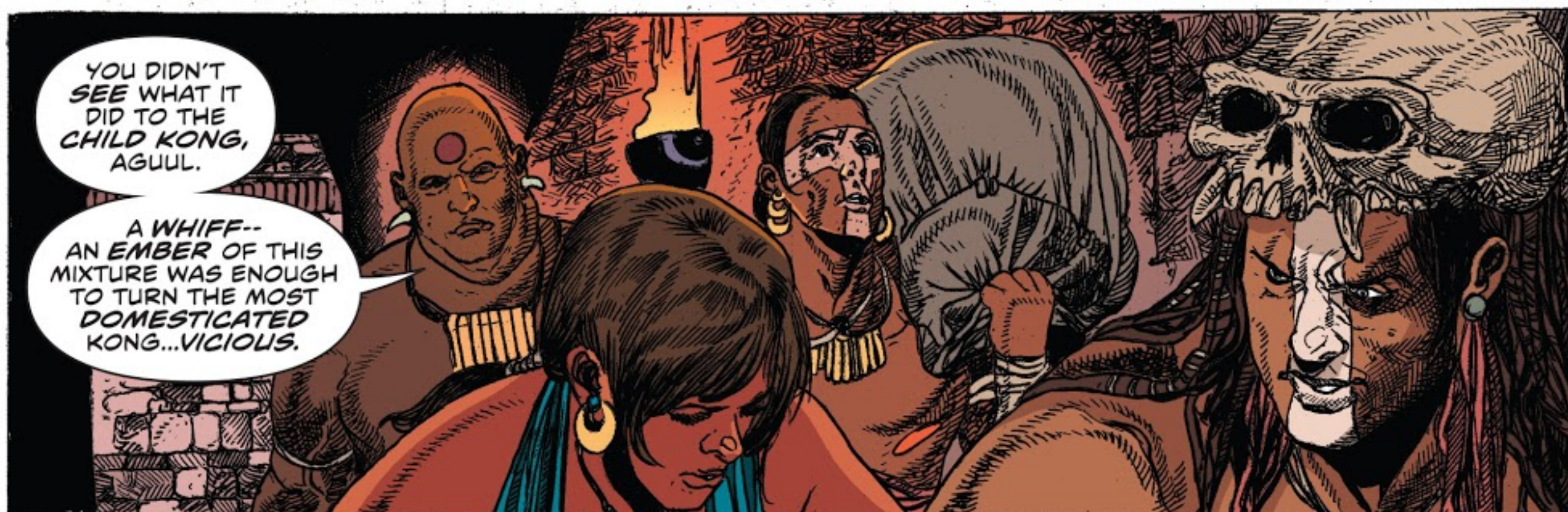
THE MEN WHO HURT YOU, TOOK HER. BUT...

...WHY DEVELOP A NEW KONG TRIGGER? THEY DIDN'T BUILD AN ARENA--THEY BUILT A FORTRESS. AND WHY STEAL K'VANNI OUT HERE!?



OH GODS...

I THINK I KNOW WHAT AGUUL HAS PLANNED.





APPRECIATE
THIS MOMENT,
MY FRIENDS.

WE
ARE ABOUT
TO CHANGE THE
COURSE OF OUR
PEOPLE'S
HISTORY.

WE ARE ABOUT
TO SAVE FUTURE
GENERATIONS.

WE MAY AS
WELL BE THEIR
BENEVOLENT
GODS.













"...IT'S ALREADY
STARTED?"

LITAL!
REPORT.

ARMORED
AND READY,
AGUUL.

IF THE EXILE
KONG OR
QUEEN EWATA
SHOW THEIR
FACES--

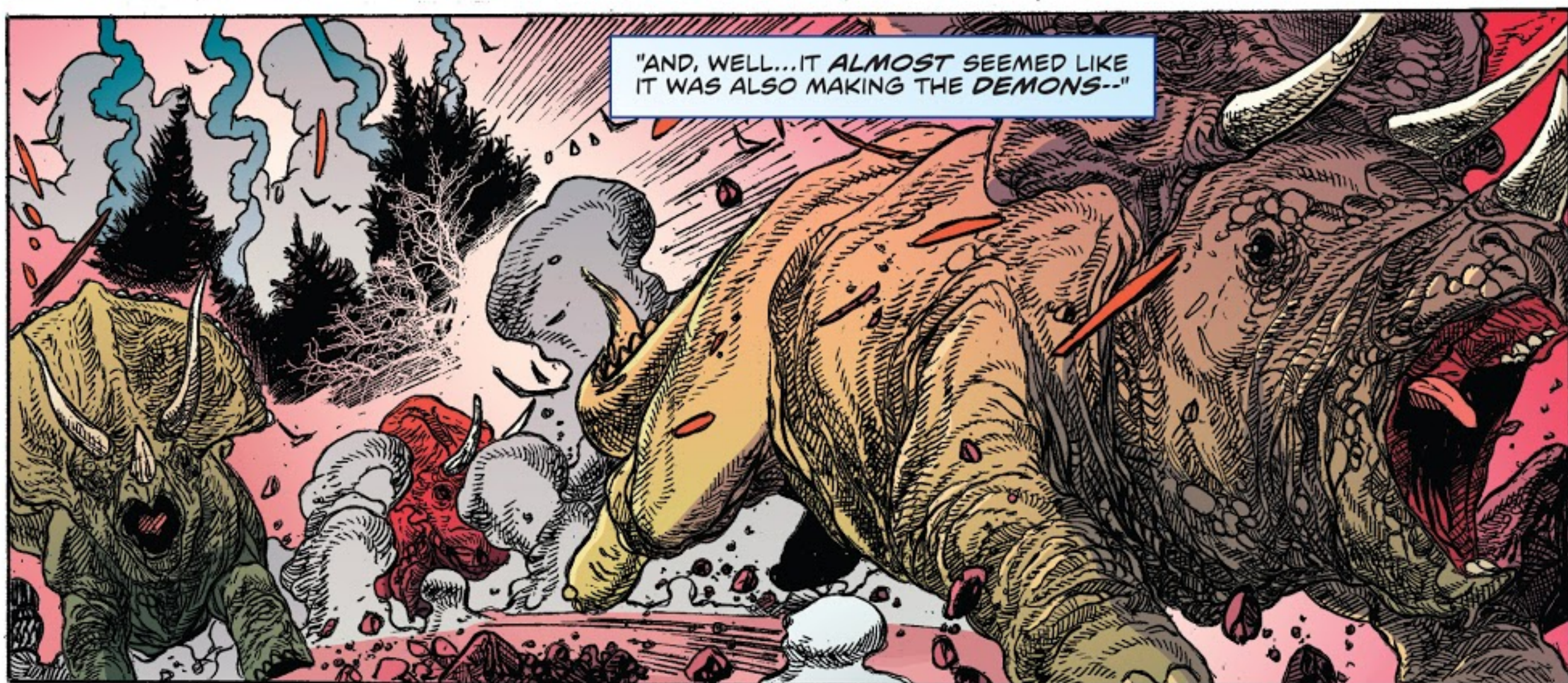
--THESE
MEN AND WOMEN
WILL BE HAPPY TO
GIVE THEM A
TYRANT'S
GREETING.



"BUT, AGUUL--THE
SMOKE YOU SENT
INTO THE MINES?"



"WE CAN SEE IT RISING FROM
EVERY CRACK AND AIR POCKET
FROM HERE TO THE SHORE.



"AND, WELL...IT ALMOST SEEMED LIKE
IT WAS ALSO MAKING THE DEMONS--"



"--JUST IMAGINE
WHAT EWATA AND
HER LOYALISTS
ARE FACING."



TO BE CONCLUDED...

KONG

OF SKULL ISLAND™

JAMES ASMUS
CARLOS MAGNO
JEREMY LAWSON

NO. 12
BOOM!
STUDIOS



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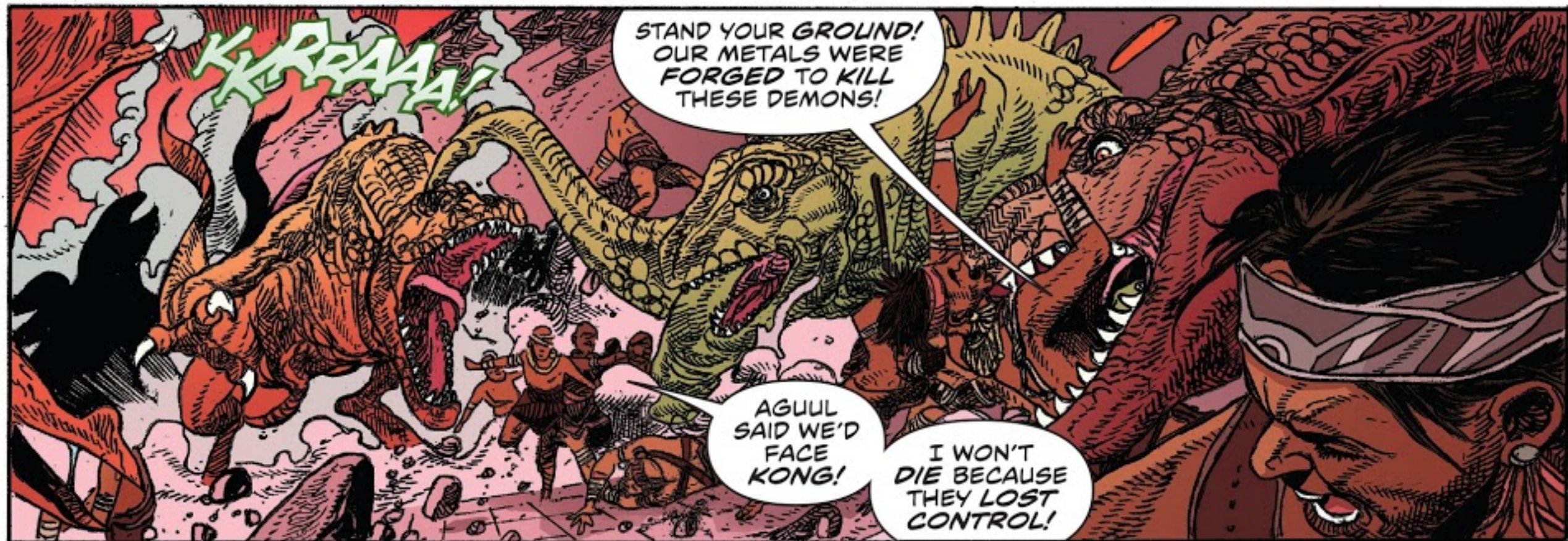
GO!

AND
DAMN THE
MONSTERS.



TAKE
COMFORT
KNOWING--

--THE
BASTARDS
WHO DID ALL
THIS ARE STUCK
IN THE CENTER
OF IT.





--D'AHH!

THRA-SHT



GOOD. DIE AS YOU LIVED, FOOL--

--UTTERLY OUT OF YOUR DEPTH.

SHT-SHT



AGUUL? EWATA--?

JUST...

GET TO SAFETY.



"THEY WILL NEED US TO SURVIVE--"

NO...



"--TO LEAD OUR PEOPLE OUT OF THE ASHES. AFTER ALL THEY KNOW HAS BEEN DESTROYED."

SNFF-SFFF--

HMMA-MA...

YOUR MOTHER? SHE DID THIS?

IF SHE TOOK K'VANNI...

...TAKE ME TO HER.





"--VALLA?!?"

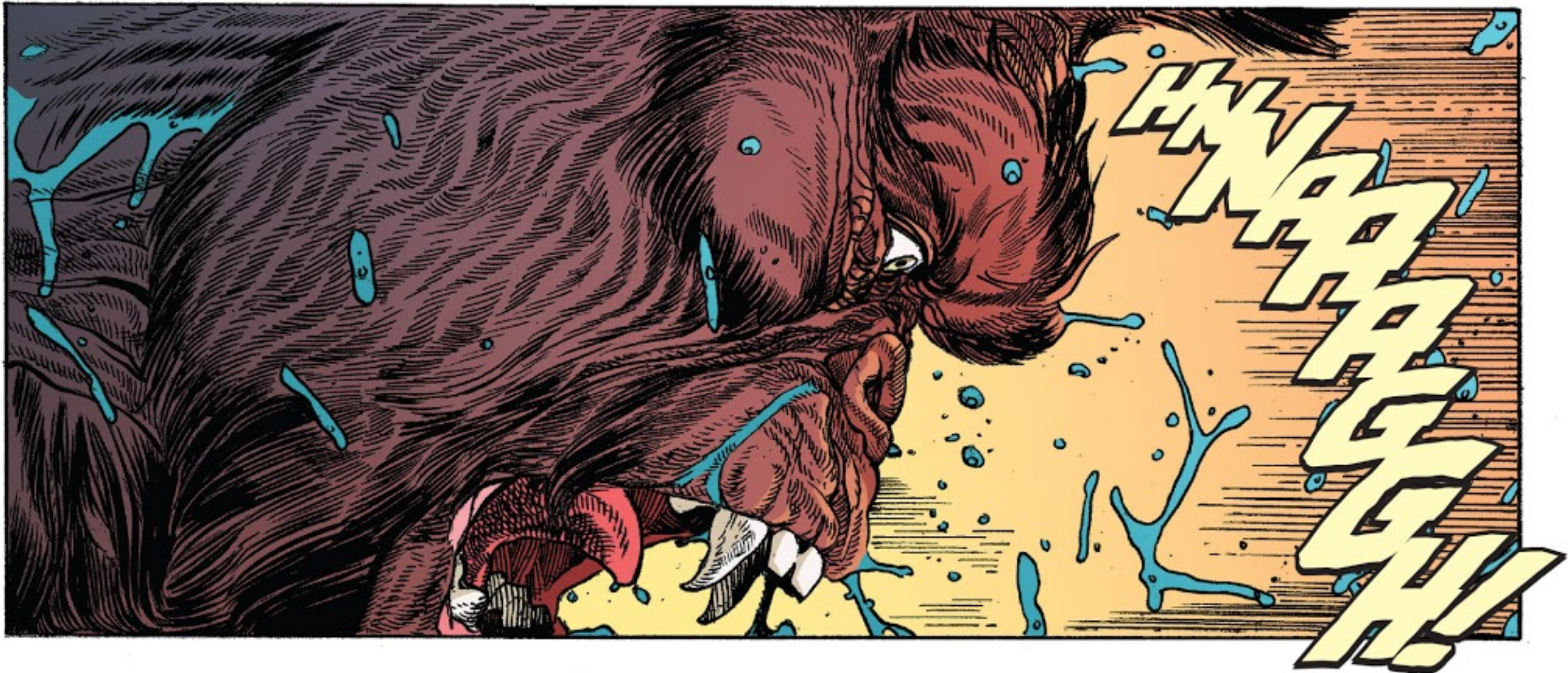
"IF SHE'S COME
BACK, EITHER THE
GODS ARE
ANSWERING OUR
PRAYERS--"

--NARRAGH!

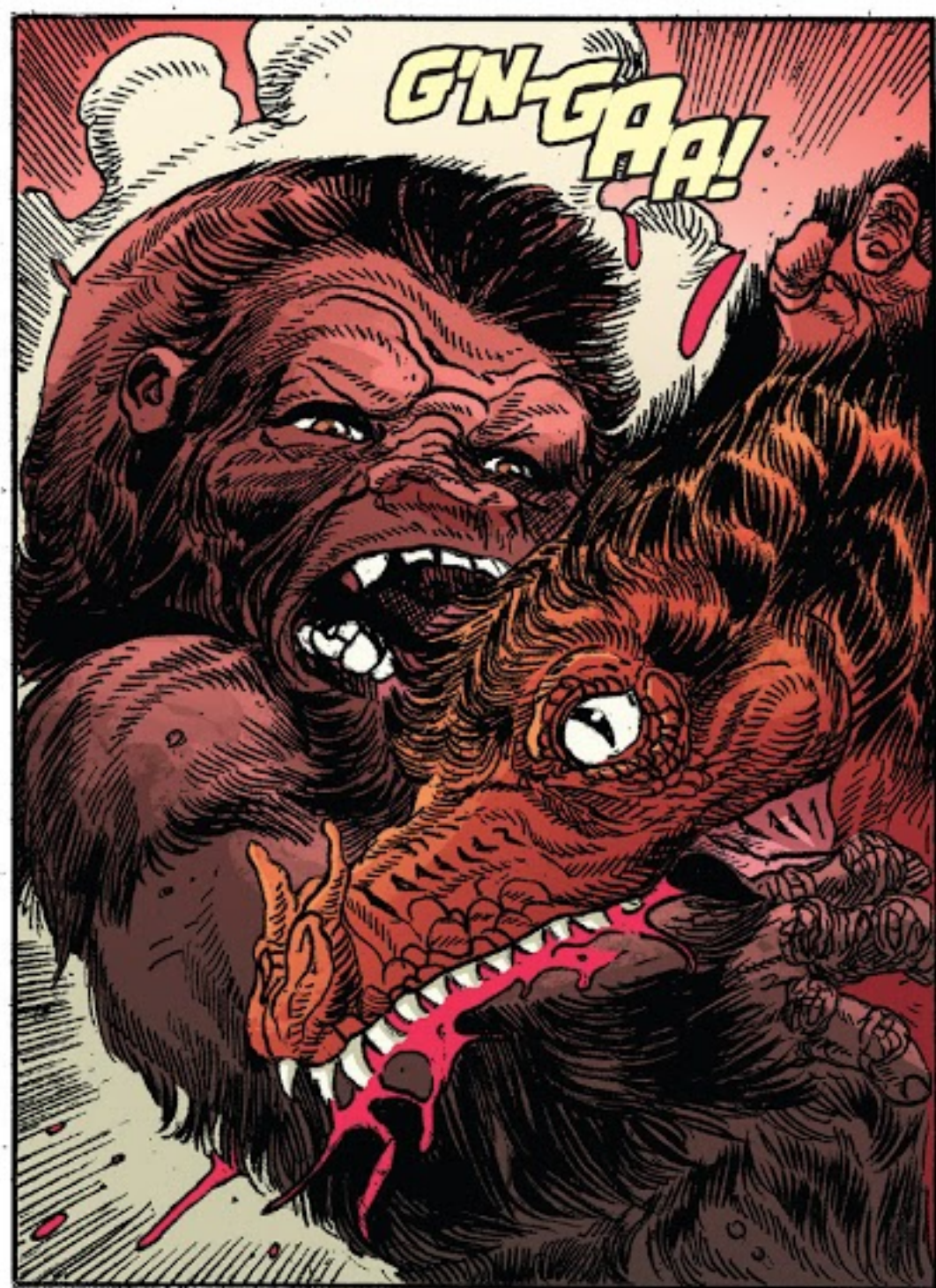


"--OR THEY TRULY
WANT TO SEE
EVERYTHING WE
HAVE DESTROYED."













NO!
NO--GET
AWAY!

STAY
BACK!!

HR-
HRRT?



G'AW?
G'AAW

G'AAW



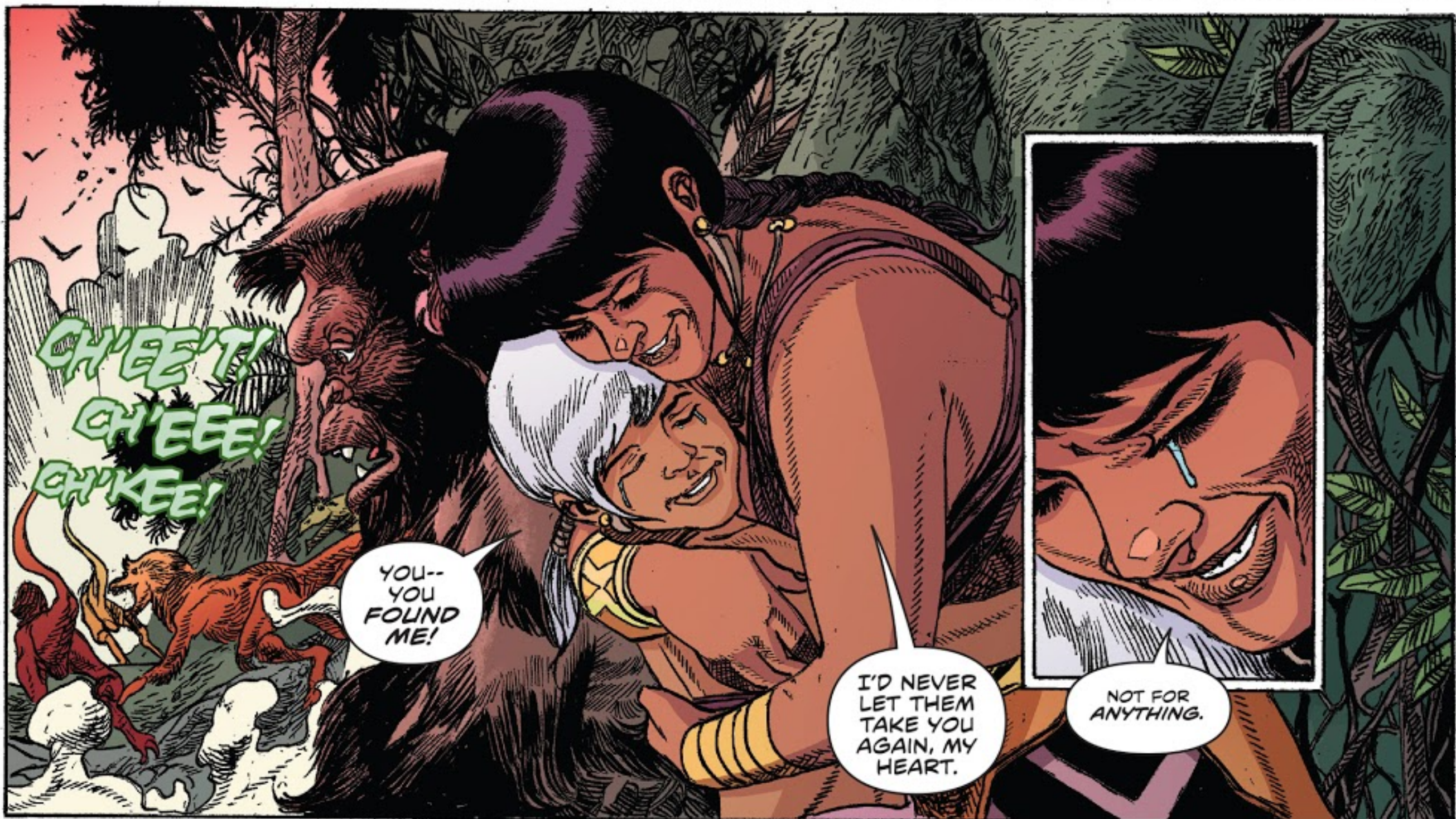
AY! YOU
COWERING
DEMONS--

--REMEMBER
ME?!

I
KILLED
YOUR
GOD!



T'KEE T'KEE--
T'KEET



CH'EE'T!
CH'EE!
CH'KEE!

YOU--
YOU
FOUND
ME!

I'D NEVER
LET THEM
TAKE YOU
AGAIN, MY
HEART.

NOT FOR
ANYTHING.







"I PRAY NO
ONE ELSE
HAS TO DIE
TODAY."

THAT'S--
THE
EXILE!



SLAY THE DEVIL THAT
KILLED A GREAT
SHAMAN--?

--BLESSINGS
BE.



STORYTELLER!
WAIT! STAY
BACK--!

NO...LOOK
AT THOSE
MEN.

THEY WERE
PREPARED.
THEY
EXPECTED
THIS.



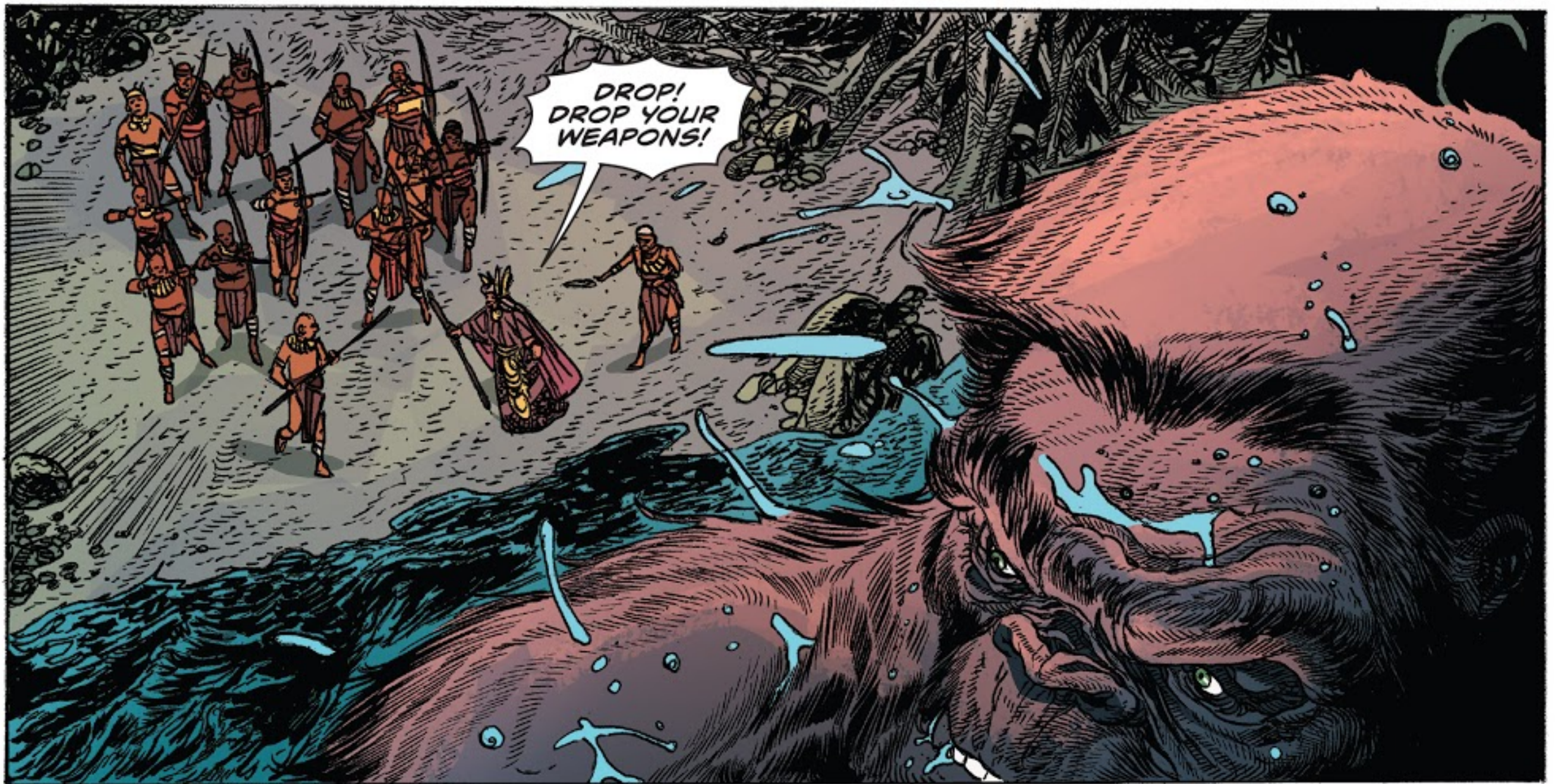
S-STOP--!



BLESSINGS BE!



NO--





IS THIS OUR FATE? TROTTED OUT FOR THE DEMONS TO DEVOUR?

HUSH.



NO. WE ARE HEADED HOME.

YOU DID ALL THIS--TERRIBLE THINGS--BECAUSE YOU FELT I RULED SELFISHLY. BUT YOU USED MY DAUGHTER...

...THERE IS NO PRETENDING I COULD BE IMPARTIAL IN DECIDING YOUR FATES.



SO YOU WILL CONFESS YOUR DEEDS--THE BLOOD ON YOUR HANDS...

...AND OUR PEOPLE DECIDE WHETHER YOU DESERVE TO LIVE.



YOU SHOULD THANK YOUR PRINCESS FOR THE STAY OF EXECUTION.

DESPITE THE HORRORS SHE EXPERIENCED TODAY, K'VANNI WANTED... ONLY...



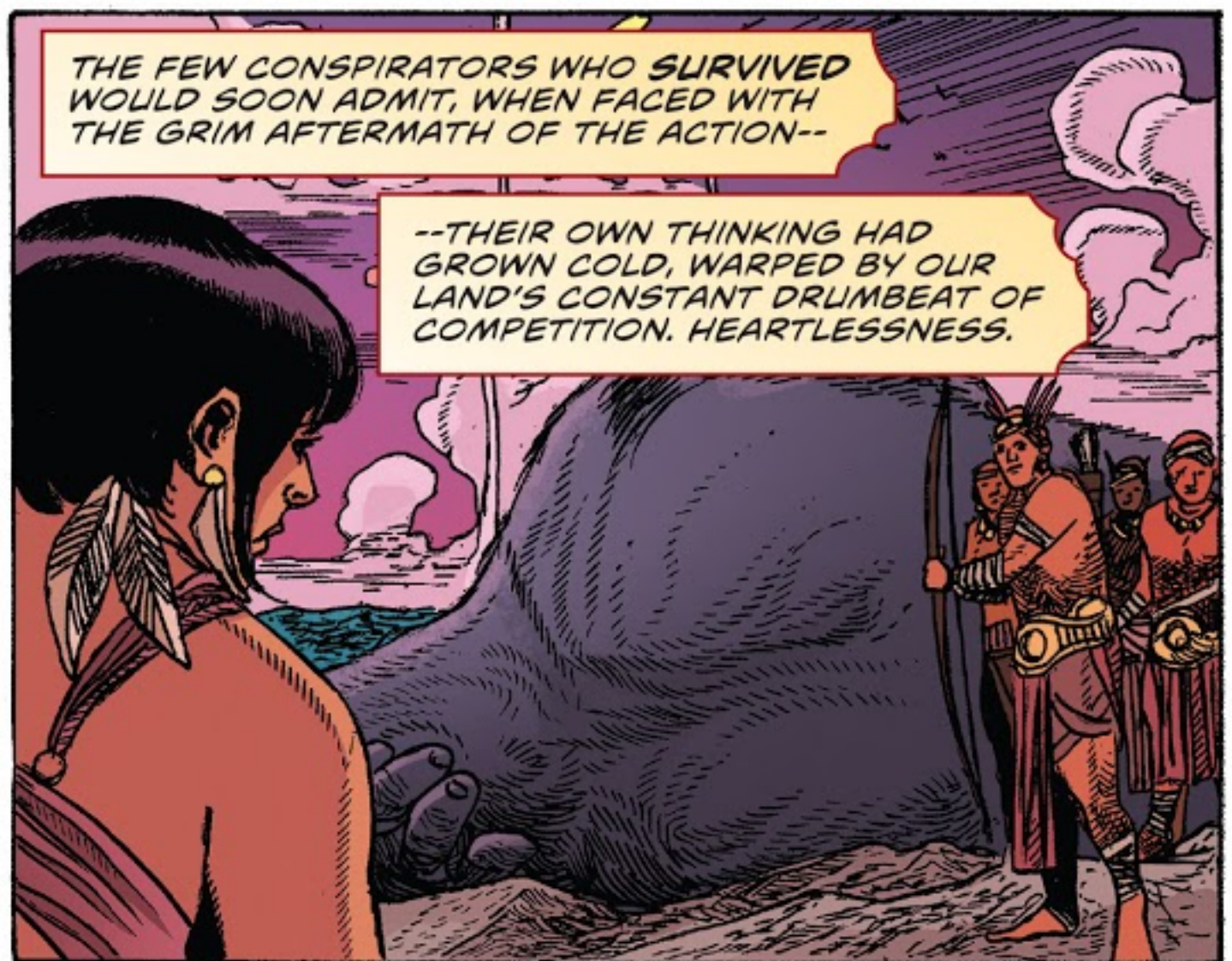
...MERCY...

IS THIS THE PRICE WE PAY?



THE SECOND GREAT BATTLE
OF OUR NEW HOME WAS NOT
WITH THE DEMONS.

IT WAS WITH
OUR OWN
HUMANITY.



THE FEW CONSPIRATORS WHO SURVIVED
WOULD SOON ADMIT, WHEN FACED WITH
THE GRIM AFTERMATH OF THE ACTION--

--THEIR OWN THINKING HAD
GROWN COLD, WARPED BY OUR
LAND'S CONSTANT DRUMBEAT OF
COMPETITION. HEARTLESSNESS.



INDIFFERENCE
TO DEATH.



THE PAIN OF LOSS
HAD MADE THEM
NUMB. VINDICTIVE.

M-MY
QUEEN...?

...WE NEVER
INTENDED FOR
THIS.

UNTIL THEY CAUSED
A PAIN THAT ATE INTO
THEIR BONES THE
SAME AS OURS.

IF THERE IS ANY
BENEFIT TO KEEPING
HISTORY, TELLING
STORIES--

--IT IS THAT YOU MAY
LEARN FROM SUFFERING,
WITHOUT HAVING TO
ENDURE IT YOURSELF.



WHEN OUR PEOPLE
BELIEVE IN THE BEST
OF EACH OTHER, THEY
CAN FORGE A FUTURE.

WHEN WE NURSE OUR
DIVISIONS, THEY WILL
ONLY GROW UNTIL WE ARE
TORN APART IN TRAGEDY.

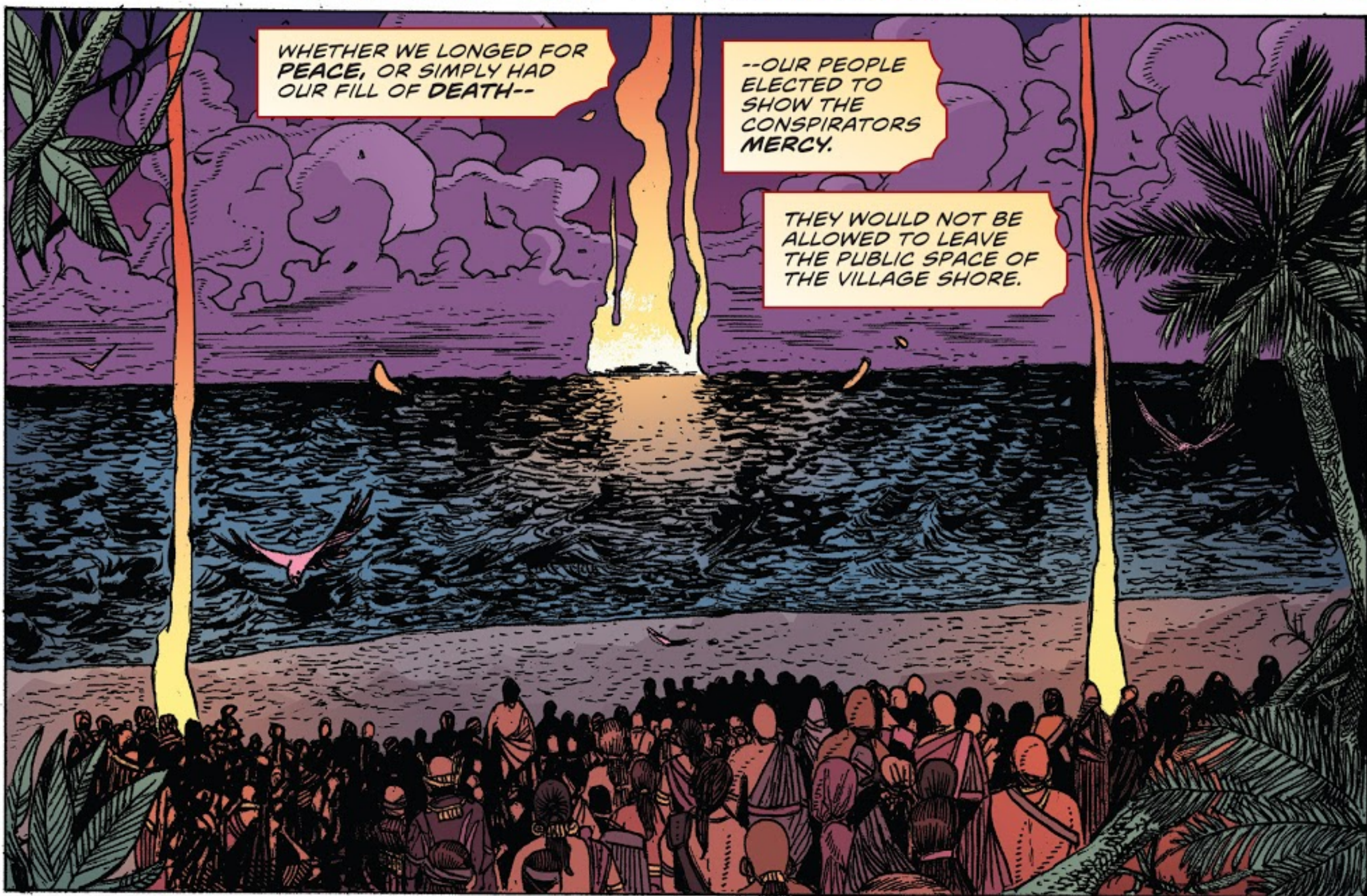
AND RETURNED
TO EACH OTHER
IN GRIEF.



WHETHER WE LONGED FOR
PEACE, OR SIMPLY HAD
OUR FILL OF DEATH--

--OUR PEOPLE
ELECTED TO
SHOW THE
CONSPIRATORS
MERCY.

THEY WOULD NOT BE
ALLOWED TO LEAVE
THE PUBLIC SPACE OF
THE VILLAGE SHORE.





WHILE SOMETHING THAT CANNOT BE CALLED 'MERCY' DROVE US TO EXILE ALL OF THE KONG INTO THE ISLAND.

THERE WERE MANY AMONG US WHO STILL REVERED OUR KONG, FOR THEIR LABORS. PROTECTION. SACRIFICE.



BUT THERE WERE MORE WHO FEARED WHAT THE BEASTS WERE CAPABLE OF.

PERHAPS IT IS OUR NATURE TO MORE READILY PUNISH CREATURES DIFFERENT FROM US.

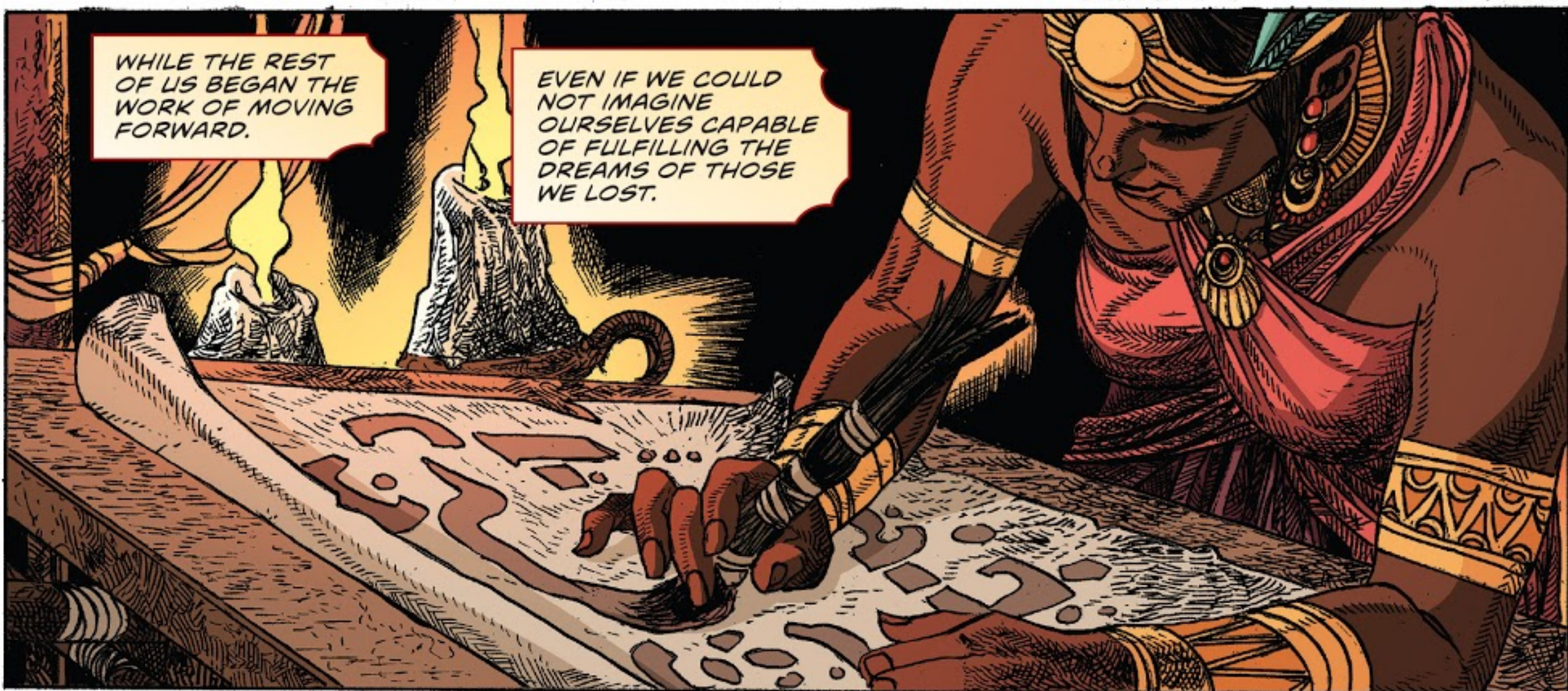


THE WARY AMONG US HOPED TO KEEP THE KONG'S FAVOR AND PROTECTION FROM DEMONS WITH OFFERINGS...



...BUT NO KONG RETURNED.

HNNN... DO WE NEED TO CONSIDER A DIFFERENT KIND OF OFFERING...?



WHILE THE REST OF US BEGAN THE WORK OF MOVING FORWARD.

EVEN IF WE COULD NOT IMAGINE OURSELVES CAPABLE OF FULFILLING THE DREAMS OF THOSE WE LOST.

ONCE SPIRITS AND MATTERS SETTLED, EWATA
PLEAD FOR HER DAUGHTER'S FORGIVENESS,
FOR ANY BLINDNESS OR STUBBORNNESS
THAT PUSHED K'VANNI INTO DANGER.

BUT THE PRINCESS
UNDERSTOOD HER
MOTHER'S CHOICES,
EVEN HER MISTAKES.

AND SUCH GENEROSITY
AND COMPASSION ONLY
PROVED TO EWATA--

--THAT HER
DAUGHTER
DESERVED
HER PEOPLE'S
CROWN.

SHE HAD ALWAYS BEEN
SINCERE IN HER RESPECT
FOR ALL HER PEOPLE'S
BELIEFS.

IN RETURN, THE
PEOPLE SAW A
CHILD OF THIS NEW
HOME UNBURDENED
BY LOSS--

BUT HARROWED,
ACCEPTING, AND
CLEAR-EYED AS
SHE LOOKS TO
THE FUTURE.

AS THEIR NEW
QUEEN.

AND EWATA WOULD
BE HER SWORD.

**BLESSINGS BE!
BLESSINGS BE!**

BLESSINGS
BE! WITH THE GOD
OF THE TAGU, AND
ALL THE GODS OF
THE ATU--OLD
AND NEW!

AND WITH HER INFLUENCE,
K'VANNI ENSURED KONG
WOULD BE TREATED,
FEARED, AND PROTECTED--

--LIKE A GOD.

